



UNIVERSIDADE ESTADUAL DE CAMPINAS
FACULDADE DE ODONTOLOGIA DE PIRACICABA

ANA PAULA GUIDI SCHMIDT HIDALGO

**PRECISÃO EM OVERDENTURES MANDIBULARES: ANÁLISE DA
ALTURA DO COMPONENTE E DO NÚMERO DE IMPLANTES COMO
DETERMINANTES BIOMECÂNICOS**

**PRECISION IN MANDIBULAR IMPLANT OVERDENTURES:
EXAMINING COMPONENT HEIGHT AND IMPLANT NUMBER AS
BIOMECHANICAL DETERMINANTS**

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Tese apresentada à Faculdade de Odontologia de Piracicaba, da Universidade Estadual de Campinas, como parte dos requisitos exigidos para a obtenção do Título de Doutora em Clínica Odontológica, na área de Prótese Dental.

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Orientador: Prof. Dr. Marcelo Ferraz Mesquita.

Coorientador: Prof. Dr. Guilherme Almeida Borges

Este exemplar corresponde à versão final da tese defendida pela aluna Ana Paula Guidi Schmidt Hidalgo e orientada pelo Prof. Dr. Marcelo Ferraz Mesquita.

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RESUMO

As overdentures mandibulares se tornaram uma opção de tratamento na reabilitação de desdentados na mandíbula, principalmente para casos de rebordos com grande grau de reabsorção óssea, em que a estabilidade e retenção da prótese convencional se tornam precárias. Entretanto, o comportamento biomecânico das overdentures em função do número e da localização dos implantes, especialmente no que se refere à altura do sistema de retenção, ainda é pouco explorado na literatura. Predizer o impacto biomecânico destes fatores sobre osso cortical, implante, sistema de retenção, tecido mucoso e a overdenture é importante para o planejamento e sucesso do tratamento. O objetivo deste estudo foi analisar a influência da altura do componente, do número de implantes e da direção da carga sobre a distribuição de tensões no osso cortical, implante, sistema de retenção equator[®], cápsula, nylon, tecido mucoso e overdenture para reabilitações com overdentures sobre 1 e 2 implantes. Foram desenvolvidos 6 modelos tridimensionais para análise de elementos finitos, simulando uma hemi-mandíbula com o tipo de reabilitação overdenture sobre 1 e sobre 2 implantes (hexágono externo; 3,75 x 11 mm; Neodent[®]) com sistema de retenção equator[®], com alturas de 2, 3 e 4 milímetros (mm). Foram aplicados dois tipos de cargas, sendo uma carga de 100 N com ângulo de 30°, na sínfise mandibular (pontos distribuídos na mesial e vestibular dos incisivos centrais inferiores) e uma carga axial de 150 N na região dos primeiros molares em ambos lados (75 N distribuídos no sulco central de cada primeiro molar). Foram avaliadas as tensões de von Mises (implante, sistema de retenção e cápsula), as tensões máxima e mínima principal (osso cortical, mucosa, nylon e overdenture) e o deslocamento (overdenture). Para análise dos resultados, as visualizações de interesse foram obtidas com os valores numéricos e o mapa de cores. Os grupos foram separados por SIMO (reabilitações com 1 implante) e TIMO (reabilitações com 2 implantes), de acordo com a altura do equator[®] (SIMO-2mm, SIMO-3mm, SIMO-4mm, TIMO-2mm, TIMO-3mm, TIMO-4mm). As cargas oblíquas apresentaram maiores valores quando comparadas às cargas axiais, para os materiais dúcteis. A cápsula apresentou maiores valores para o grupo SIMO, para os dois tipos de carga. A tensão mínima principal foi maior para o nylon no grupo SIMO na carga oblíqua, sendo maior para o grupo SIMO-4mm (-10,29 Mpa). Já a tensão máxima principal foi maior para o osso cortical no grupo TIMO-2mm (8,6 Mpa) para carga oblíqua. A overdenture apresentou maiores valores de tensão máxima principal para o grupo SIMO na carga oblíqua (SIMO-2mm: 66 Mpa; SIMO-3mm: 70,4 Mpa; SIMO-4mm: 76 Mpa). E por fim, o deslocamento da overdenture foi influenciado pela direção da carga e pelo número de implantes e não pela altura do sistema de retenção. As overdentures sobre 1

e 2 implantes apresentaram comportamentos biomecânicos diferentes, de acordo com a direção da carga, sendo que os valores das tensões foram maiores para maior altura do sistema de retenção. As overdentures sobre 1 implante podem ser prejudicadas com as cargas oblíquas, por apresentarem maiores valores de tensão para cápsula, nylon e overdenture. E, por fim, a seleção do componente pode ser crítica, devido ao maior acúmulo de tensão na cápsula, equator[®] e overdenture.

Palavras-chave: Edêntulos. Overdenture. Implantes dentários.

ABSTRACT

Mandibular overdentures have emerged as a viable treatment option for the rehabilitation of edentulous jawbones, particularly in cases where ridges exhibit significant bone resorption. However, the biomechanical behavior of overdentures based on the number and location of implants, particularly regarding the height of the retention system, is still underexplored in the literature. Understanding the biomechanical impact of these factors on cortical bone, implants, retention systems, mucosal tissue, and overdentures is crucial for effective treatment planning and successful outcomes. The objective of this study is to analyze the influence of component height, the number of implants, and load direction on the distribution of stresses in cortical bone, implants, the equator retention system, housing, nylon, mucosal tissue, and overdentures for rehabilitations involving one or two implants. Six three-dimensional models were developed for finite element analysis, simulating a hemi-mandible with overdenture rehabilitation on one and two implants using an equator retention system, with component heights of 2, 3, and 4 millimeters (mm). Two types of loads were applied: a 100 N load at a 30-degree angle on the mandibular symphysis (with points distributed on the mesial side of the lower central incisors) and an axial load of 150 N in the first molar region (75 N distributed across each first molar). The study evaluated von Mises stresses (in the implant, equator, and housing), as well as maximum and minimum principal stresses (in cortical bone, mucosa, nylon, and overdenture) and displacement (of the overdenture). To analyze the results, visualizations were created that included numerical values and color-coded maps. The results indicated that oblique loads produced higher stress values compared to axial loads for ductile materials. The housing exhibited higher stress values for the SIMO (simple-implant mandibular overdenture) group under both types of loads. The minimum principal stress for nylon in the SIMO group was highest under oblique load, particularly for the SIMO-4mm configuration (-10.29 MPa). The maximum principal stress for cortical bone was greatest in the TIMO-2mm (two-implant mandibular overdenture) group (8.6 MPa) under oblique load. The overdenture showed higher maximum principal stress values for the SIMO group under oblique load (SIMO-2mm: 66 MPa; SIMO-3mm: 70.4 MPa; SIMO-4mm: 76 MPa). Finally, the displacement of the overdenture was influenced by the direction of the load and the number of implants, but not by the height of the equator. Based on the analysis of the results, we can conclude that overdentures supported by one or two implants exhibit different biomechanical behaviors depending on the load direction, with stress values increasing with greater equator height. Additionally, overdentures supported by a single implant may be adversely affected by

oblique loads due to higher stress concentrations in the housing, nylon, and overdenture. Lastly, the selection of components is critical, as it can lead to increased stress accumulation in the housing, equator, and overdenture.

Keywords: Edentulous. Overdentures. Dental implants.

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1 INTRODUÇÃO

A reabilitação de pacientes totalmente edêntulos sempre foi desafiadora na prática clínica (Alvarez-Arenal et al., 2017), sendo que por décadas, as próteses totais convencionais foram consideradas como primeira opção de reabilitação para desdentados totais. Entretanto, com o advento dos implantes, as overdentures mandibulares sobre implantes ganharam espaço. Quando apoiadas sobre 2 implantes, se tornaram a primeira opção de reabilitação para desdentados mandibulares (Thomason et al., 2012). Os consensos internacionais de McGill e York estabeleceram que dois implantes localizados entre os forames mentonianos são consideradas como padrão mínimo de reabilitação, sendo suficientes para reter uma overdenture com boa estabilidade e função mastigatória (Feine et al., 2002; Thomason et al., 2009). Este tipo de reabilitação sobre implantes, com o objetivo de melhorar a estabilidade e a retenção da prótese, consiste no uso de um sistema de retenção adicional, o que contribuiu de forma positiva para a satisfação do paciente (Cardoso et al., 2016, Schuster et al., 2017). É interessante destacar o impacto positivo das overdentures mandibulares sobre a qualidade de vida, conforto e função mastigatória em pacientes idosos, quando comparada às próteses totais convencionais inferiores (Marcello-Machado et al., 2018).

Alguns estudos com a metodologia de elementos finitos buscaram elucidar o comportamento biomecânico com relação ao número de implantes (El-Anwar et al., 2017; Liu et al., 2013; Pisani et al., 2018). Pode-se hipotetizar que quanto maior o número de implantes, menor o efeito de deflexão da prótese, e, menor a compressão dos tecidos, tanto na mucosa quanto no osso peri-implantar (Pisani et al., 2018). Embora os consensos internacionais tenham considerado 2 implantes como o padrão mínimo para reabilitações do tipo overdenture mandibular, existem estudos na literatura que citam a possibilidade de reabilitar a mandíbula com apenas 1 implante (Ferreira et al., 2019; Nascimento et al., 2015; Pisani et al., 2018), e citam como argumentos para esta indicação o custo-benefício (tratamento financeiramente acessível) e permitir um procedimento cirúrgico mais simples e menos invasivo, ideal para pacientes idosos, que podem ter contraindicações para realização de cirurgias ou até mesmo receio do procedimento cirúrgico. Alguns estudos na literatura tentaram elucidar aspectos importantes sobre o comportamento das overdentures mandibulares sobre 1 implante, alguns clínicos e outros com a metodologia de elementos finitos. Um estudo clínico concluiu que a overdenture mandibular retida sobre 1 implante permite obter performance mastigatória adequada, independente do protocolo de carregamento (Passia et al., 2017). Já em estudos com

a metodologia de elementos finitos, Liu et al. em 2013, citou que mesmo que a overdenture mandibular sobre 1 implante possa sofrer rotação na linha de fulcro, o estresse gerado não é danoso ao osso peri-implantar. Amaral et al. avaliaram em 2018, a possibilidade de fratura da prótese, Ferreira et al. observou em 2019 o impacto biomecânico sob diferentes posições e angulações do implante e Nascimento et al. observou em 2015, a dissipação da tensão ao redor do implante. Apesar destes estudos, não há evidências na literatura se a altura do componente pode influenciar no comportamento biomecânico da overdenture mandibular sobre 1 implante.

Assim como o número de implantes, outro aspecto relacionado com o impacto biomecânico do tratamento reabilitador com overdentures mandibulares é o tipo de attachment. Mesmo utilizando o melhor sistema de retenção, podem ocorrer complicações, sendo que 30% delas estão relacionadas com perda da retenção ou ajuste (Goodacre et al., 2003; Matthys et al., 2019). O sistema de retenção mais utilizado historicamente é o tipo bola, um sistema tipo macho-fêmea com um anel de borracha. Apesar de simples, uma de suas desvantagens está relacionada com a resiliência fornecida pelo sistema de retenção, que pode influenciar na capacidade de mastigação (Kimoto et al., 2009). Outro tipo de attachment também muito utilizado, é o locator[®] ou equator[®], muito semelhante ao tipo bola, possui um sistema tipo macho-fêmea, porém com componente retentivo de nylon, com mecanismo de retenção friccional, já que o componente retentivo metálico contido na parte macho é maior do que o anel interno de nylon da parte fêmea (Marcello-Machado et al., 2018). Se comparado com o attachment tipo bola, apresenta como vantagem a altura reduzida, que permite reabilitar regiões com pouco espaço protético, como também seu formato cilíndrico, que pode ser considerado como fator de resistência perante a rotação da prótese (Chen et al., 2011).

Pesquisadores tentaram definir qual seria o attachment ideal, do ponto de vista biomecânico, através da análise de tensões por elementos finitos, comparando os attachments do tipo bola e locator[®], observando a distribuição das tensões em diferentes estruturas, como osso cortical e trabecular, implante e o próprio attachment (El-Anwar et al., 2017; Liu et al., 2013; Unsal et al., 2019; Sato et al., 2020; Nascimento et al., 2015; Cicciù et al., 2015). Apesar dos estudos publicados sobre este tema, existem controvérsias na literatura. De acordo com alguns autores, o attachment do tipo bola é o que sofre maior tensão de compressão (El-Anwar et al., 2017), ao passo que o locator[®] dissipa melhor a tensão sobre o implante e sobre ele próprio (Cicciù et al., 2015). Desse modo, o attachment locator[®] garantiria a longevidade da reabilitação, a menor necessidade de reparo e manutenção (El-Anwar et al., 2017). Porém,

Unsal et al. em 2019 publicaram um estudo contradizendo esses dados, conferindo aos attachments tipo bola, menores valores de tensão de von Mises sobre o osso peri-implantar e sobre o implante, quando comparado ao locator®. Do ponto de vista clínico, a satisfação dos pacientes de acordo com o tipo de attachment da overdenture mandibular se apresenta de forma variável, sendo que as características individuais de cada paciente exercem certa influência, o que indica que experiência clínica ainda é um fator a ser levado em consideração quando comparado a evidência científica (Albuquerque et al., 2018).

Assim como os diferentes tipos de attachment apresentam diferentes comportamentos biomecânicos, estudos sugeriram que diferentes alturas de um mesmo tipo de attachment podiam influenciar na biomecânica. Alguns estudos na literatura, através da análise de elementos finitos, relacionaram a altura do sistema de retenção com o impacto sobre as estruturas peri-implantares e estruturas protéticas (Unsal et al., 2019; Ying et al., 2017). Entretanto, um estudo clínico foi o primeiro a identificar uma maior perda óssea relacionada com a altura do locator®, mesmo que os pacientes não apresentassem alto índice de placa e alto índice de sangramento, levando a concluir que a altura do sistema de retenção pode ser considerada um fator de risco para a perda óssea (Mifsud et al., 2020). Em concordância com este achado clínico, um estudo *in vitro* que avaliou a dissipação das cargas sofridas por uma overdenture mandibular sobre 2 implantes, com sistema de retenção tipo bola e locator®, concluiu que a escolha inadequada da altura do locator® pode levar à incidência de cargas laterais parafuncionais, levando à consequente perda óssea (Ying et al., 2017). Mesmo com estes resultados, ainda não é tão claro o comportamento biomecânico nas estruturas peri-implantares, como no osso cortical e na mucosa, como também sobre a overdenture e seus componentes, de acordo com as diferentes alturas do sistema de retenção em overdentures mandibulares sobre 1 e 2 implantes.

Para obter estes resultados, é possível avaliar através da análise de elementos finitos a rotação da prótese (Kimoto et al., 2009), a tensão mínima principal em mucosa (Assunção et al., 2009), a tensão máxima principal no tecido ósseo cortical (Alvarez-Arenal et al., 2017) e a tensão máxima de Von Mises nos elementos dúcteis (Alvarez-Arenal et al., 2017; Ferreira et al., 2019; Nascimento et al., 2015). É possível avaliar também a concentração de tensão, sendo útil na avaliação da biomecânica em overdentures mandibulares (Barão et al., 2013).

Com base em todas as informações observadas e às necessidades e lacunas observadas na literatura, o objetivo deste estudo foi analisar a influência da altura do equator, do número

de implantes e da direção da carga na distribuição de tensões pela metodologia dos elementos finitos em 3D sobre o osso cortical, implante, cápsula, sistema de retenção equator, nylon, tecido mucoso e overdenture nas reabilitações tipo overdentures mandibulares. Dessa forma, será possível compreender a dissipação das cargas através das estruturas avaliadas e se a altura do componente pode estar relacionada com a perda óssea peri-implantar.

2 ARTIGO:

Precision in Mandibular Implant Overdentures: Examining Component Height and Implant Number as Biomechanical Predictors[#]

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Abstract

Selection of prosthetic attachment height and implant number can influence the supporting structures of implant mandibular overdentures (IMOs), including peri-implant tissue and prosthetic components. This study evaluated the biomechanical effects of single IMO (SIMO) or two IMO (TIMO) systems with different stud transmucosal heights (2, 3, or 4 mm) on cortical bone, mucosal tissue, implants, and prosthetic elements. Twelve three-dimensional finite element models were created using McNeel Rhinoceros 3D v7.0®, representing scenarios with 2 mm (SIMO-2mm, TIMO-2mm), 3 mm (SIMO-3mm, TIMO-3mm), and 4 mm (SIMO-4mm, TIMO-4mm) heights. Simulations included 100 N oblique loading (30°) on lower central incisors and 150 N axial loading on the first molars. Von Mises stress (implant, housing, stud), maximum and minimal principal stress (bone, tissue, prosthesis, nylon), and

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displacement were analyzed through numerical data and color-coded images. Oblique loading resulted in higher stress, particularly in SIMO-4mm and TIMO-4mm. Nylon inserts in SIMO configurations experienced high compressive stress, especially in SIMO-4mm. TIMO configurations under oblique loading caused critical stress in peri-implant bone. Prosthetic tensile stress and displacement were greatest in SIMO-4mm under anterior loading. High transmucosal heights increased stress on housing, attachment, and prosthesis, particularly in systems with thin soft tissue. SIMO and TIMO rehabilitations under oblique loading showed high stress in ductile structures, with significant implications for SIMO-4mm due to stress concentration in nylon, prosthesis base, and displacement. Elevated transmucosal heights should be used cautiously in cases of limited soft tissue thickness.

Keywords: Dental implants; Finite element analysis; Attachment height; Implant number

1. Introduction

Rehabilitation of fully edentulous patients has always been a challenge in clinical practice (Alvarez-Arenal et al., 2017), especially using mandibular conventional complete dentures, where biomechanical (stability and retention) (Marcello-Machado et al., 2018; Schuster et al., 2017) and bone reduction issues frequently arise (Cawood and Howell, 1988). These limitations posed can be effectively addressed through the advantages offered by dental implant-retained prosthodontics, such as implant mandibular overdentures (IMOs) (Cardoso et al., 2016; Mifsud et al., 2020a, 2020b; Schuster et al., 2017). Among these, expert consensus has identified the placement of 2 IMO (TIMO) as the treatment of choice for the edentulous mandibles, supported by multiple clinical studies demonstrating significant patient reported outcomes improvements over conventional dentures (Thomason et al., 2009). Although the TIMO has been considered the first treatment of choice for the edentulous mandible, the initial expenses and the available residual ridge make it unaffordable or even unfeasible for many elderly individuals (Waltenberger et al., 2024). Therefore, alternative treatment options with up to 10 years of follow-up have advocated for a single IMO (SIMO) as a viable rehabilitation plan (Coutinho et al., 2022), combining high patient satisfaction with lower costs, reduced surgery time, and minimized comorbidities (De Paula et al., 2020; Trang et al., 2022). Among the alternatives (TIMO or SIMO), the primary benefit is the improvement of biomechanical drawbacks associated with conventional dentures. Although these benefits have been sparsely

addressed in *in silico* studies (Ebadian et al., 2012), evidence suggests that the stress patterns between ductile and non-ductile structures are similar for both SIMO and TIMO (Borges et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2013; Pisani et al., 2018).

The improvement of comfort and masticatory function have been reported by elderly patients as the main reasons for rehabilitation switch (TIMO or SIMO), when compared to lower conventional complete dentures (Coutinho et al., 2022; Hauck et al., 2021; Marcello-Machado et al., 2018; Schuster et al., 2017; Waltenberger et al., 2024); thus, increasing the success rate of the treatment (Bryant et al., 2015; Schuster et al., 2017). Mechanically, those benefits are mainly related to the retention component (i.e., attachment) which is mainly selected according to the clinical experience and the supracrestal tissue height (Quispe-López et al., 2024; Trang et al., 2022). Among attachment choices, the height may influence masticatory load dissipation and usability in long-term assessments (Mifsud et al., 2020a). A clinical study evaluating marginal bone loss around dental implants following TIMO installation highlighted the impact of attachment selection (specifically, stud height) on peri-implant bone health (Mifsud et al., 2020b). Notably, the data revealed that abutments with increased height (4 mm) posed a significant risk factor for marginal bone loss within a 12-month period. However, additional biomechanical data to substantiate and justify these findings remain limited. Similarly, while biomechanical information for TIMO is sparse, the SIMO rehabilitation design also lacks sufficient data, both clinically and *in silico*, regarding the effects of attachment height.

Altogether, the number of implants used for rehabilitation (SIMO or TIMO) and the attachment heights may provide a rationale for load dissipation along the cortical bone. Within this context, variations in attachment heights (1–5 mm) have been biomechanically assessed only for TIMO (Khurana et al., 2019; Ying et al., 2017). A previous *in silico* study informed that stress dissipation in TIMO treatment plan was enhanced by the stud compared to the ball system, when assessing different heights. In details, the ball system with 4 mm height and 2 mm mucosal tissue exercised more lateral forces on implant and authors suggest that attachment height should be carefully select (Ying et al., 2017). However, data was solely provided for the ball system. Meanwhile, an *in vitro* study evaluated the dissipation of loads suffered by a TIMO with ball and locator retention system, and concluded that the inadequate choice of locator height can lead to the incidence of off-axis lateral loads (Ying et al., 2017). However, the biomechanical influence of inappropriate component choice for SIMO and TIMO rehabilitation

components (cortical bone, mucosa, prosthesis, associated implant) remains insufficiently reported. Therefore, the objective of this study is to evaluate stress distribution using finite element analysis across the cortical bone, implant, housing, stud, nylon, mucosal tissue, and prosthesis. The analysis will consider different implant configurations (SIMO or TIMO) and attachment heights (2, 3, or 4 mm). The null hypotheses to be tested are that varying stud heights (2, 3, and 4 mm), implant number (SIMO and TIMO), and loading direction (axial and oblique) would result in biomechanical similarities between ductile and non-ductile structures.

2. Materials and methods

This study was performed by using a generic 3-dimensional (3D) model of a human mandible obtained at the Center of Information Technology Renato Archer database. The digital computer-aided design (CAD) geometry of the mandible was identical for both rehabilitation structures (SIMO and TIMO), modeled with a Class III bone structure based on the Cawood & Howell classification (Cawood and Howell, 1988). This classification describes an alveolar ridge with a very rounded shape, adequate height, and sufficient thickness. The digital reconstruction was created using Rhinoceros 7.0 SR12 Software (McNell North America, Seattle, Washington, EUA). Pre-processing section was initiated by the mandibular structuration, specifically isolating a 2 mm thick cortical layer and extracting cancellous bone through Boolean difference operations (El-Anwar et al., 2017; Liu et al., 2013; Ozan and Ramoglu, 2015). The mucosal tissue, upper recovering the cortical bone was defined with 1,5mm thickness, aiming to reproduce a thicker mucosal tissue (Unsal et al., 2019). The implants (Titamax Ti/Ex; Neodent) placed (3.75 mm in diameter x 11 mm in length) described the first independent variable, either using single (SIMO) or two (TIMO) implants for the mandibular rehabilitation. Regarding the implant location for the TIMO groups, it was maintained 25 mm apart, representing the distance between the canine tooth (Pisani et al., 2018). Meanwhile, it was positioned in the midline symphysis for the SIMO setting (Borges et al., 2021). The attached component to the implant had a stud design (Equator; Titamax Ti/Ex; Neodent) with specific 3 transmucosal heights, defining the other independent variables: 2 mm (SIMO- or TIMO-2mm), 3 mm (SIMO- or TIMO-3mm), and 4 mm (SIMO- or TIMO-4mm). The geometry applied for the individual implants and the associated stud attachments were modeled following the engineering commercial drawings. Moreover, the implants were rigidly attached along the bone interface and bonded to simulate 100% osseointegration (Borges et al.,

2021; Pisani et al., 2018). Regarding the prosthesis reconstruction it was designed a length of teeth until the second molar and the base thickness was reduced according the attachment height increased.

After defining the geometries and assembling the solids of the 6 models (SIMO-2mm, IMO-3mm, IMO-4mm, TIMO-2mm, TIMO-3mm, and TIMO-4mm), they were exported to HyperWorks 19.0 Software (HyperWorks 19.0, Altair, Troy, Michigan, EUA) in step format. All 3D meshes were built using at least 3 elements in each dimension in order to obtain accurate results with a higher degree of convergence (Borges et al., 2021). Sequentially, the material properties, fixation, and boundary conditions were established. Specifically, 2 contact area were defined as sliding, first between prosthesis and mucosal tissue, while the second between attachment and nylon, aiming to reproduce a clinical situation (Liu et al., 2019; Borges et al., 2021). The other contact areas were defined by freeze and the posterior region of the mandible was kept fixed to simulate anatomical condition for the mandible (Liu et al., 2013).

The structures of interest in this study was cortical bone (Young Modulus = 13.700 MPa and Possion's ratio = 0.35), trabecular bone (Young Modulus = 1.370 MPa and Possion's ratio = 0.3), implants/ housing/ attachment (Young Modulus = 103.400 MPa and Possion's ratio = 0.35), IMO (Young Modulus = 8.300 MPa and Possion's ratio = 0.28), nylon (Young Modulus = 2.400 Mpa and Possion's ratio = 0.39), and mucosal tissue (Young Modulus = 340 MPa and Possion's ratio = 0.45) (Barão et al., 2008; Daas et al., 2008; Liu et al., 2019). The cortical and cancellous bone were modeled as isotropic, linearly elastic, and homogeneous, simulating a clinical scenario with total osseointegration (Liu et al., 2013). For boundary conditions, rigid fixation was applied to the posterior regions of the mucosa, cortical, and cancellous bone to prevent displacement in the x, y, and z Cartesian planes. The hemi-mandible models were mirrored to assume symmetry between the two sides (Borges et al., 2021).

To reproduce a clinical scenario, a third independent variable was added, an oblique load of 100-N (50-N in each incisor) distributed in 73 nodes was applied in the mesial of the central incisor, with an angulation of 30° (Borges et al., 2021). According to the actual state-of-art, occlusal loads in edentulous patients vary between 100-N to 200-N and the anterior load applied will represent a critical scenario of unfavorable biomechanical distribution (Borges et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2019). To enhance data collection, an axial load of 150 N (75 N on each first molar) was applied to the central sulcus of the first molar, distributed across 125 nodes. The application of this load was designed to reproduce a clinical situation in patients

rehabilitated with a bilateral balanced occlusion, simulating the loads suffered in the masticatory process (Pisani et al., 2018).

Mathematical equations (processing analysis) were performed using Optistruct solver in all models in order to understand the stress distribution mechanism. The command analysis was set, according to the material. First, the models were assessed based on the prosthesis displacement in millimeters (Pisani et al., 2018). The second analysis (von Mises equivalent stress) was conducted for ductile materials (implants, stud attachment, and housing) (Borges et al., 2021; Pisani et al., 2018). Nevertheless, as the cortical bone is a brittle material (nonductile structure), the maximum principal stresses were obtained to better understand the influence of different prostheses designs on the peri-implant bone (Pisani et al., 2018). This equation was also applied for the prosthesis. The minimum principal stresses were recorded for the nylon and mucosa to investigate its compression (Pisani et al., 2018). Thereafter, stresses were plotted numerically, color-coded by stress maps, and compared among all the 12 groups (factor 1: implant number; factor 2: attachment height; factor 3: loading location).

3. Results

Ductile materials (housing, attachment, and implant) behaved differently depending on the load type, number of implants, and attachment height. The housing (Figure 1a), which is the component attached to the prosthesis base, exhibited higher von Mises equivalent stress under oblique loading conditions (8.37–16.97 MPa) compared to axial loading (0.39–1.31 MPa), regardless of the number of implants (TIMO or SIMO) (Figure 1a). When considering variations in attachment height, the highest stress values were observed in SIMO-4mm (16.94 MPa) and TIMO-4mm (9.35 MPa) (Figure 1a). In contrast, groups with SIMOs generally showed stress values below 1 MPa (Figure 1a). Stress maps for axial loading in the housing (Figure 2a) displayed a well-rounded distribution, whereas oblique loading (Figure 3a) revealed a vestibular stress profile directed toward the center of the component, aligned with the loading direction.

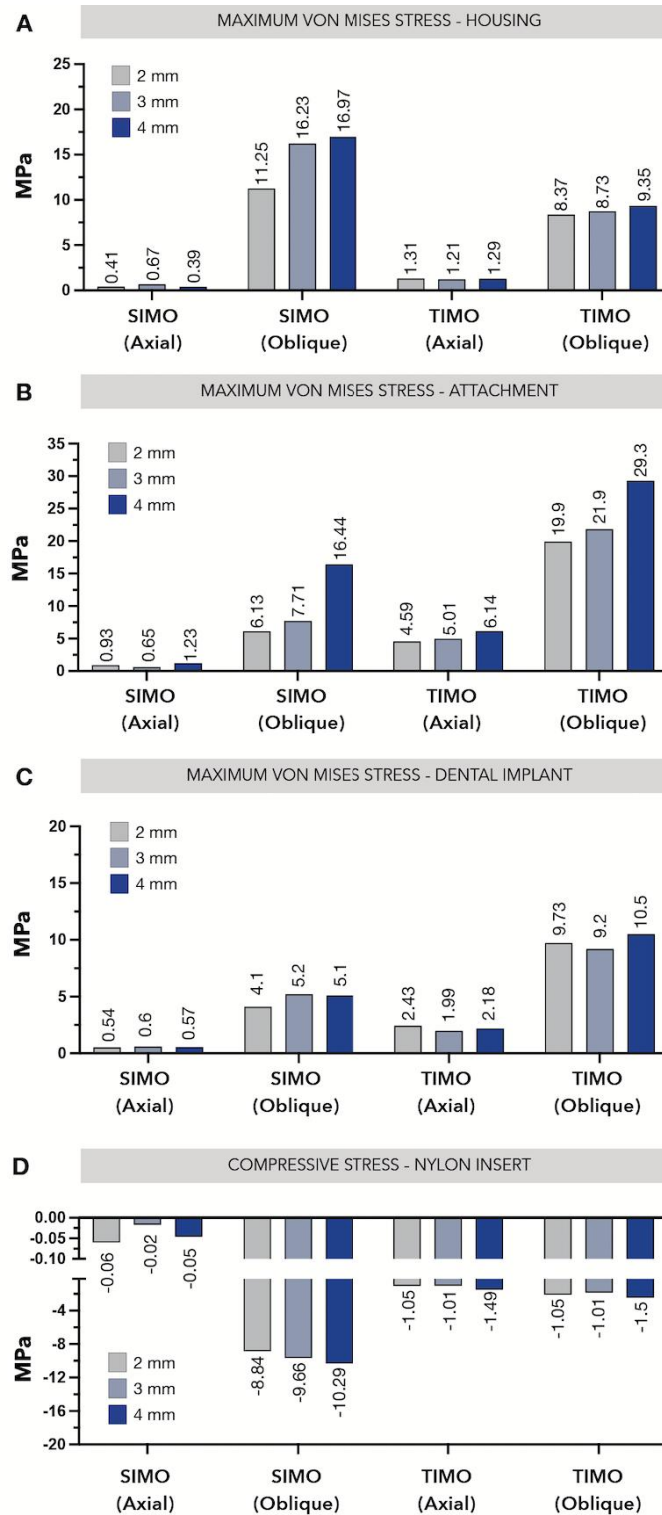


Figure 1. Stress distribution in ductile materials and in the nylon insert: equivalent von Mises stress in the (A) Housing, (B) Attachment, and (C) Implant. Minimum Principal Stress in the (D) nylon insert.

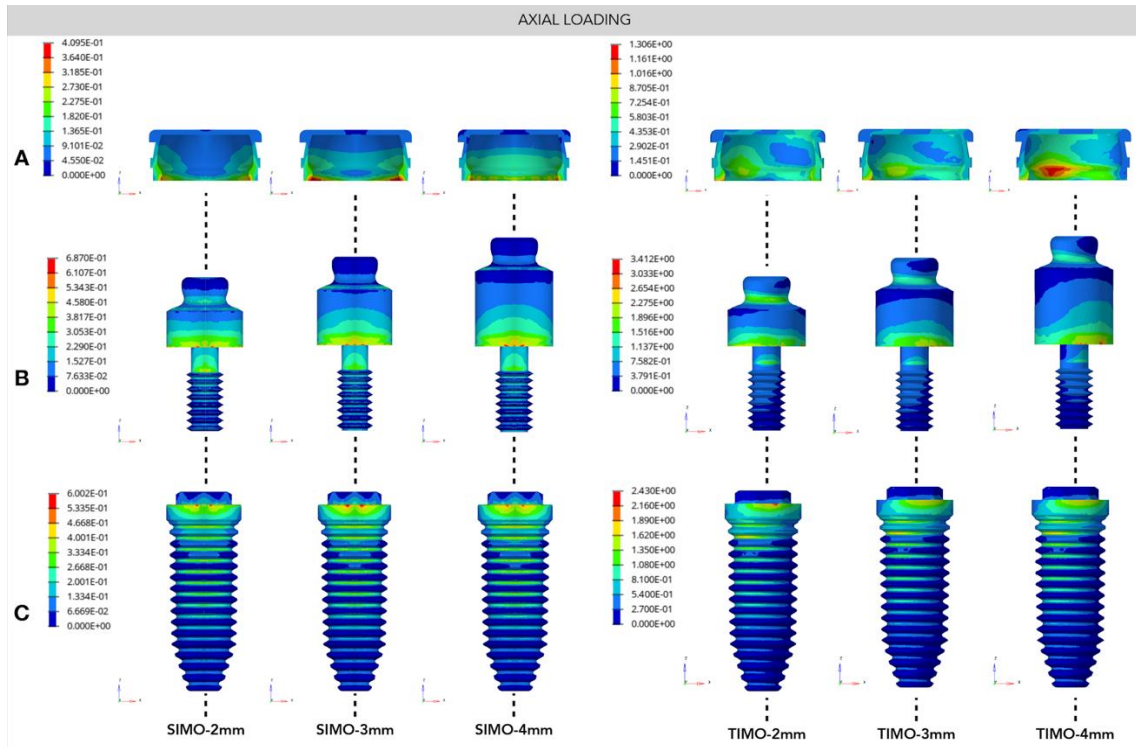


Figure 2. Color-Coded stress maps showing the von Mises stress distribution, when applying the axial loading, in the (A) Housing, (B) Attachment, and (C) Implant.

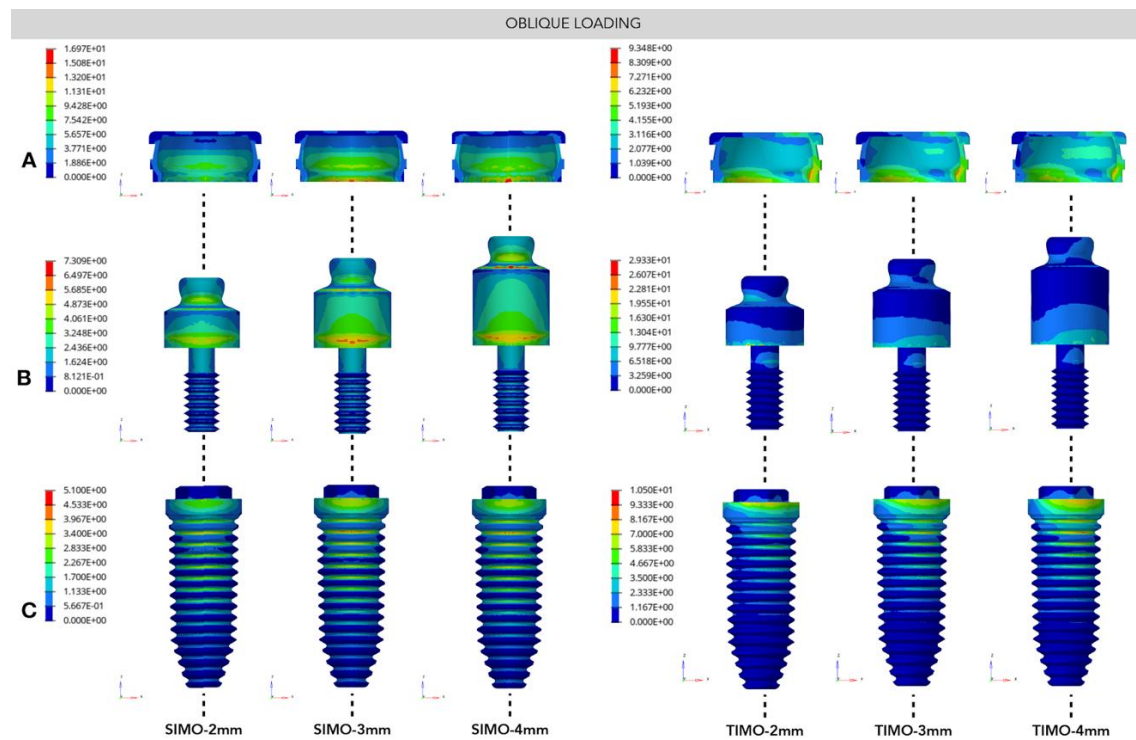


Figure 3. Color-Coded stress maps showing the von Mises stress distribution, when applying the oblique loading, in the (A) Housing, (B) Attachment, and (C) Implant.

When assessing the attachment (Figure 1b), it is evident that the loading direction produced a stress profile similar to that observed in the housing. Oblique loading (6.13–29.3 MPa) resulted in higher stress values than axial loading (0.65–6.14 MPa) (Figure 1b). The highest stress levels were associated with components with greater transmucosal height, particularly SIMO-4mm (16.4 MPa) and TIMO-4mm (29.3 MPa) (Figure 1b). Notably, all groups, except SIMO under oblique loading, showed higher stress values in the attachment (0.65–29.3 MPa) compared to the housing (0.39–16.97 MPa) (Figure 1b). Stress maps under axial loading were minimal (Figure 2b) compared to the under oblique loading (Figure 3b). The last (Figure 3b) revealed that stress was concentrated primarily between the attachment and the implant platform for both TIMO and SIMO groups. However, in the SIMO groups (Figure 3b), the neck of the component was also significantly stressed, particularly in SIMO-4mm.

The implant was the most distal ductile structure from the point of loading application (Figure 1c). Stress values, measured in MPa, were found to be relatively consistent across different transmucosal heights within the groups (Figure 1c). For the SIMO axial load, stress ranged from 0.54 to 0.6 MPa, and for the SIMO oblique load, from 4.1 to 5.2 MPa (Figure 1c). Similarly, TIMO axial loading resulted in stress values between 1.99 and 2.43 MPa, while TIMO oblique loading ranged from 9.2 to 10.5 MPa (Figure 1c). As observed in the previously mentioned structures (housing and attachment), oblique loading consistently produced the highest stress values, regardless of the number of implants. However, among all the ductile structures analyzed, the dental implant exhibited the lowest stress values (Figure 1c). In the TIMO groups, whether subjected to posterior (Figure 2c) and anterior (Figure 3c) loading, stress was primarily concentrated on the implant platform and the first 3 threads. For the SIMO groups, the stress extended further downward, nearly reaching the bottom of the implant, regardless of the loading direction.

The compressive stress in the nylon insert showed comparable values (-1.01 to -1.5 MPa) across the TIMO groups under both axial and oblique loading conditions (Figure 1d). The highest stress values (-8.84 to -10.29 MPa) were recorded in the SIMO oblique groups, with the SIMO-4mm group exhibiting the peak von Mises equivalent stress of -10.29 Mpa (Figure 1d). These findings for the SIMO axial groups align closely with the stress values observed in the housing (Figure 1d). Intrusion of the prosthesis was possible to be identified in the stress-map for the axial loading for SIMO and TIMO (Figure 4a), that displayed a stress concentration in the upper side of the nylon, irrespective the attachment height. When it was considered the

oblique loading (Figure 4b) for SIMO, the stress switched for the center of the component, suggesting a lateral movement.

Peri-implant cortical bone was critically compromised for the anterior oblique loading (Figure 5a) in the TIMO groups (6.2-8.6 MPa), irrespective of the transmucosal height. The SIMO groups had almost equivalent values (0.9-1.5 MPa) (Figure 5a). The mucosal bearing area under compression had higher values for the SIMO configuration (Figure 5b), irrespective the loading direction, and the transmucosal height had minimal interference with values ranging from -0.41 to -0.44 MPa. Regarding the tensile stress in the prosthesis (Figure 5c), it was jeopardized by the anterior oblique loading, especially in the SIMO groups with higher values as the transmucosal height increased (SIMO-2mm: 66 MPa SIMO-3mm:70.4 MPa SIMO-4mm: 76 MPa). The prosthesis movement was assessed by its displacement (Figure 5d), this data was only affected by the direction of loading, being higher in the anterior load specially for SIMO (0.05-0.06 mm) when compared with TIMO (0.37 mm).

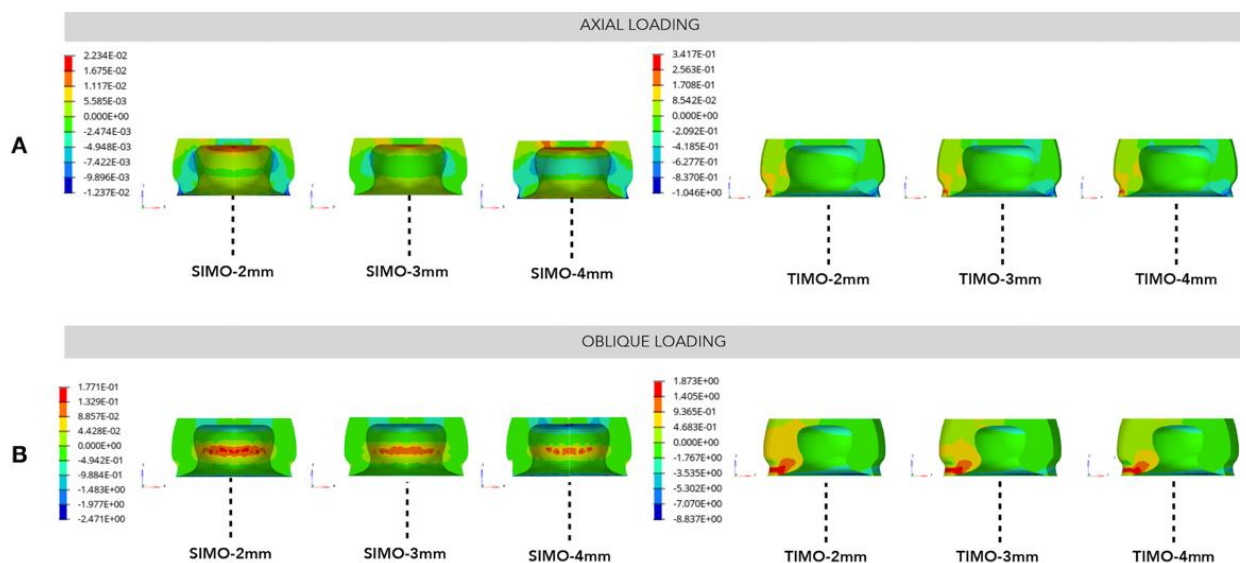


Figure 4. Color-Coded stress maps showing the Minimal Principal stress distribution in the nylon insert, when applying: (A) the axial and (B) oblique loading.

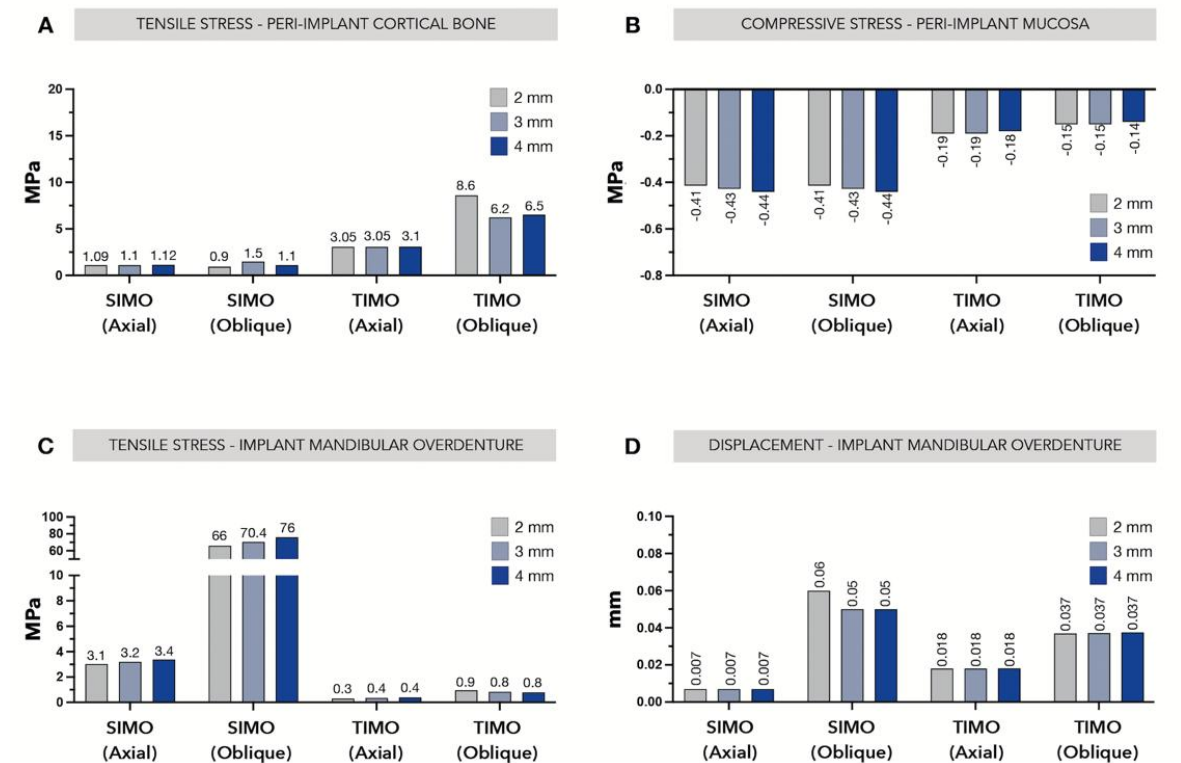


Figure 5. Biomechanical Behavior: (A) Maximum principal stress in peri-implant cortical bone, (B) maximum principal stress in the implant mandibular overdenture, (C) minimum principal stress in the mucosa, and (D) displacement of the prosthesis.

4. Discussion

The present investigation explored the mechanical behavior of various mandibular rehabilitation settings, emphasizing the influence of load type, number of implants, and attachment height on stress distribution and structural response. The findings highlighted distinct patterns in stress magnitude and distribution across both ductile structures (housing, attachment, and implant) and non-ductile structures (nylon inserts, prosthesis, and peri-implant tissues such as cortical bone and mucosa). Oblique loading consistently generated higher stress levels compared to axial loading across all structures, with notable variations depending on implant number (TIMO vs. SIMO) and the transmucosal profile of the attachments. These findings led to the rejection of all three null hypotheses regarding implant number, transmucosal height, and loading direction. The results for the housing revealed SIMO with higher transmucosal profile (SIMO-3mm and SIMO-4mm) had the higher stress concentration between 16.23 and 16.97 Mpa, respectively. Possible justifications might be related to the

proximity to the loading application (Borges et al., 2021; Liu et al., 2013), the reduction of the prosthesis base as the attachment height increased (De Paula et al., 2020), and freedom for lateral movements (Trang et al., 2022).

The application of 100-N distributed (30° off axis) in 73 nodes in the central incisor for SIMO might be a critical scenario related to the anterior food biting (Borges et al., 2021). Since, the oblique load represents the inclined biting force, based on the law of solid mechanics. This implies that when a force is applied to an inclined plane, it is divided into two components, being one parallel and one perpendicular to the inclined plane. Such a scenario might be particularly critical in SIMO rehabilitations, especially in cases with a high transmucosal profile (SIMO-3 and SIMO-4) and soft tissue thickness below 2 mm. In line with this assumption, placing a higher component may compromise the resin layer, leading to poor bonding at the housing interface. Consequently, the likelihood of SIMO fractures increases due to high occlusal loads, as well as the initiation and propagation of cracks in areas of the prosthesis with localized stress (De Paula et al., 2020). This finding aligns with the observed high tensile stress in the SIMO resin, particularly under oblique loading.

Moreover, the limitation of movement associated with the stud component may function as a stress absorber, redistributing stress between the housing and the nylon insert or vice versa (Trang et al., 2022). The last assumption may also explain the tenfold increase in stress observed in the nylon insert for the SIMO group under oblique loading. The excessive stress observed in scenarios with oblique loading, a high transmucosal profile, and SIMO components may suggest the need for short-term maintenance appointments or the incorporation of reinforcement frameworks in the prosthetic base (De Paula et al., 2020; Waltenberger et al., 2024).

The stud attachment was the ductile structure with the upmost values of von Mises stress. This output goes along with previous studies (Borges et al., 2021; Pisani et al., 2018). This can be attributed to the location of the load on the fulcrum formed by the two components, as well as the lever arm created in conjunction with the implant. For all models examined, an increase in attachment height resulted in higher stress values across all areas. In the case of a removable prosthesis, the vertical prosthetic space, considering both the implant and peri-implant tissue, can be mechanically divided into two lever arms: the distance from the implant base to the attachment and the distance from the attachment to the occlusal plane. Increasing the first lever arm or attachment height generates greater off-axial bending forces, leading to a

simultaneous rise in stress values. Additionally, the concurrent reduction in prosthesis space and base thickness increases the flexibility of the overdenture, causing larger deflections and movements, reduced tissue contact, and a subsequent increase in the observed stresses (Ebadian et al., 2012). Therefore, an optimal treatment plan is crucial to minimize the risk of functional complications. This includes evaluating the available prosthetic space to select the appropriate prosthetic rehabilitation and choosing the correct components.

The groups (SIMO and TIMO) evaluated under axial loading (150 N applied in the first molars distributed across 125 nodes) displayed lower values of loading for the housing, attachment, implant, and nylon. Those data might be related to the distance between the loading and the components under evaluation. This assumption is particularly consistent for the SIMO group. When evaluating prosthesis displacement, it was observed that the movement of the rehabilitation is more closely related to the number of implants than to the transmucosal height. Because of the vertical and horizontal displacement pattern observed in the studied rehabilitation, the number of nylon can reduce the movement, especially in the TIMO groups (Pisani et al., 2018). The instability observed in the SIMO groups may require additional attention, including closer clinical monitoring of the patient and more frequent maintenance appointments as previously noted (Hauck et al., 2021). Therefore, the mucosal support in SIMO is more evident due to the freedom in rotation and less components to turn the system more rigid (Bryant et al., 2015; De Paula et al., 2020).

A previous clinical study evaluating TIMO with standard and mini-implants found that marginal bone loss around implants was influenced by the height of the stud abutments. Specifically, abutments with greater height (4 mm) were identified as a risk factor for marginal bone loss within a 12-month period (Mifsud et al., 2020b). However, in our study, transmucosal height had minimal impact, except in the case of TIMO-2mm under oblique loading. These findings should be interpreted with caution, as bone loss is a multifactorial outcome affected by factors such as proper prosthesis adaptation, consistent daily overdenture insertion practices, and parallel implant positioning (Borges et al., 2021; Coutinho et al., 2022; Mifsud et al., 2020b; Pisani et al., 2018; Schuster et al., 2017). Moreover, previous biomechanical studies using similar methodologies did not consider cortical bone as an independent variable, which limits direct comparisons (Khurana et al., 2019; Ying et al., 2017). To enhance understanding, it is suggested that higher soft tissue height be considered to aid clinicians in selecting appropriate abutments. Studies have shown that implants with prosthetic abutments <2 mm are associated

with greater marginal bone loss compared to those with abutments ≥ 2 mm (Quispe-López et al., 2024). Therefore, further research is needed to evaluate the impact of varying soft tissue heights and their influence on clinical outcomes.

Previous clinical study assessing TIMO with standard and mini implants observed that marginal bone loss around the implants had influence by the stud height (Mifsud et al., 2020b). Specifically, it was noticed that abutments with greater height (4 mm) presented as a risk factor for marginal bone loss in a period of 12 months. However, regarding our data the transmucosal height had minimal influence, only for the TIMO-2mm under oblique loading. The data should be evaluated with caution since the bone loss is a complex outcome, and may be compromised by the proper adaptation of the prosthesis itself, daily proper practice of the overdenture insertion, and parallel implant position. Regarding previous data, the biomechanical studies with the same methodology had not assessed the cortical bone as an independent variable.

Limitations of the present study design included geometric variations among commercially available components and implants. Although the anatomic features of the mandible were standardized, small variations in bone regulation to place the implants may have influenced the results, specifically the cortical bone. Moreover, a single implant connection type was used to fabricate the SIMO and TIMO models. Another limitation was that lack of dynamic loading used which may not accurately reflect physiological forces or excentric movements in bilateral balanced occlusion (Borges et al., 2021). Using a prospective clinical design to address biological differences could represent the long-term performance under fatigue cyclic loading. (Bryant et al., 2015; De Paula et al., 2020; Hauck et al., 2021; Schuster et al., 2017)

5. Conclusion

Based on the findings of this finite element study, the following conclusions were drawn:

1. Rehabilitations with SIMO and TIMO behaved biomechanically different, according to the loading direction. The oblique loading exhibited a high maximum von Mises stress, especially for a high transmucosal profile (SIMO-4mm and TIMO-4mm).
2. Models with SIMO displayed a high compressive stress in the mucosa, mainly because the lever arm is increased compared with TIMO. Also, SIMO under oblique loading may require attention when transposing the scenario clinically, since presented high stress in the nylon, prosthesis base, and displacement.

3. Selecting a high transmucosal component might be critical when having low soft tissue thickness (1.5 mm). The concern may be related to the high stress observed in the housing, attachment, and prosthesis.

CRedit authorship contribution statement

Ana Paula Guidi Schmidt Hidalgo, Writing – review & editing, Investigation, Formal analysis, Data curation. **Thaís Barbin**: Methodology, Investigation, Formal analysis, Data curation. **Leonardo Mendes Ribeiro Machado**: Visualization, Software, Methodology, Resources. **Marcelo Ferraz Mesquita**: Writing – review & editing, Validation, Formal analysis, Data curation. **Guilherme Almeida Borges**: Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Visualization, Supervision, Software, Resources, Project administration, Methodology, Conceptualization, Investigation, Formal analysis, Data curation.

Informed consent statement

Not Applicable.

Compliance with ethics requirements

This article does not contain any studies on human or animal subjects.

Institutional review board statement

Not Applicable.

Declaration of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process

During the preparation of this work, the authors used the ChatGPT AI tool to improve the readability of the English language. After using this tool, the authors reviewed and edited the content as needed and took full responsibility for the content of the publication.

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Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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Data availability

Data will be made available on request.

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3. CONCLUSÃO

A partir da análise dos resultados deste estudo, pode-se concluir:

1. Reabilitações com overdentures mandibulares com 1 ou 2 implantes possuem comportamento biomecânico diferentes, de acordo com a direção da carga. A carga oblíqua apresentou maiores valores para Von Mises, especialmente para maior altura do equator (4mm).
2. As reabilitações com apenas 1 implante apresentaram maior compressão da mucosa, que pode ser justificada pelo fato do aumento do braço de alavanca, comparado com a reabilitação sobre 2 implantes. Além disso, com a aplicação da carga oblíqua, é possível concluir que reabilitações com 1 implante são mais prejudicadas comparadas com as reabilitações com 2 implantes, devido apresentarem maior concentração de estresse no nylon, na overdenture e sofrerem maior deslocamento.
3. A seleção de um componente transmucoso mais alto em relação à mucosa pode ser crítica, devido ao acúmulo de estresse na cápsula, no attachment e na overdenture.

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APÊNDICE – DETALHAMENTO METODOLÓGICO

Fase de pré-processamento:

Descrição da Análise:

Em parceria com o CTI (Centro de Tecnologia e Informação Renato Archer – Campinas-SP), um modelo de mandíbula tridimensional foi desenvolvido através dos elementos finitos. O modelo foi construído unilateralmente, assumindo uma simetria mandibular bilateral, para simular condições de carga em duas diferentes configurações de reabilitações sobre implantes (hexágono externo 3,75 x 11 mm; Titamax – Ti/Ex Neodent): sobre uma overdenture apoiada em 1 implante localizado na região da sínfise mandibular e sobre uma overdenture apoiada sobre 2 implantes, localizados na região dos caninos, com 25 milímetros (mm) de distância entre si, com sistema de retenção tipo equator® (Neodent).

Os modelos foram montados seguindo as seguintes variações:

- Altura do equator: 2, 3 e 4 mm (Figura 1);
- Carga: 150N na região dos primeiros molares (75N em cada lado);
- Carga: 100N na região dos incisivos centrais com angulação de 30° (50N em cada lado).

Dessa forma, estabeleceram-se 6 grupos:

SIMO-2mm: overdenture sobre 1 implante com *equator* de altura 2mm;

SIMO-3mm: overdenture sobre 1 implante com *equator* de altura 3mm;

SIMO-4mm: overdenture sobre 1 implante com *equator* de altura 4mm;

TIMO-2mm: overdenture sobre 2 implantes com *equator* de altura 2mm;

TIMO-3mm: overdenture sobre 2 implantes com *equator* de altura 3mm;

TIMO-4mm: overdenture sobre 2 implantes com *equator* de altura 4mm.

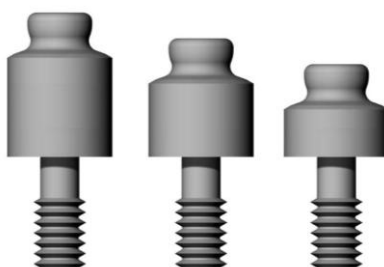


Figura 1. Variação nas alturas do *equator* (4, 3 e 2 mm, respectivamente).

Materiais e ferramentas:

Os materiais utilizados para este estudo foram: computador (sistema 64 bits, duplo núcleo, 16 GB de memória Ram, 1 TB de HD); programas de desenho assistido (CAD): Rhinoceros 3D (NURBS ModelingNoran Engineering, for Windows, EUA); Programa de Elementos Finitos (FEA) Hyperworks (Altair Engineering Inc, EUA) e Optistruct (Altair Engineering Inc, EUA).

Geometria dos modelos:

Os 6 modelos foram construídos a partir da mesma geometria, composta por osso cortical, osso trabecular, mucosa e implante. Essa geometria foi construída através de um modelo genérico retirado da biblioteca de modelos do CTI – Renato Archer (Figura 2).

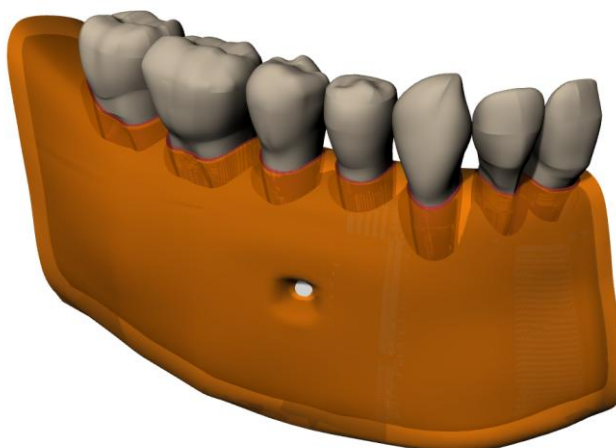


Figura 2. Modelo genérico da biblioteca de modelos do CTI – Renato Archer, utilizado como geometria base para os 6 modelos do estudo.

Para adequar a nossa proposta de estudo, foram necessárias algumas modificações na anatomia do modelo genérico utilizado, como a remoção de todos os dentes e ligamentos periodontais, através dos comandos *untrim* e *surface by edge* e o consequente fechamento dos alvéolos. Dessa forma, estabeleceu-se o modelo de uma mandíbula edêntula (Figura 3). Também foi necessário um *offset* de 2mm nas superfícies externas que formam o osso cortical e as superfícies resultantes foram utilizadas como base para construir o tecido mucoso (Figura 4).

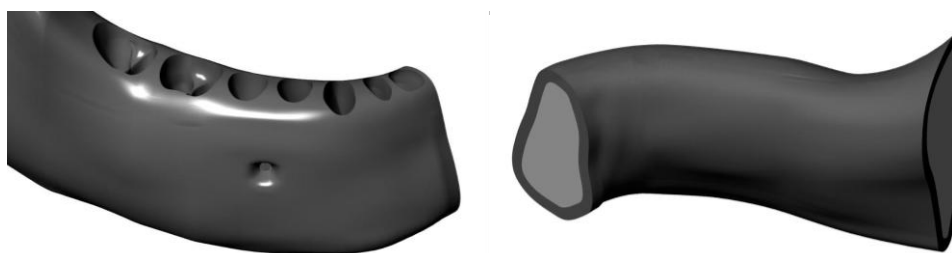


Figura 3. Comparativo entre as geometrias após o fechamento dos alvéolos.

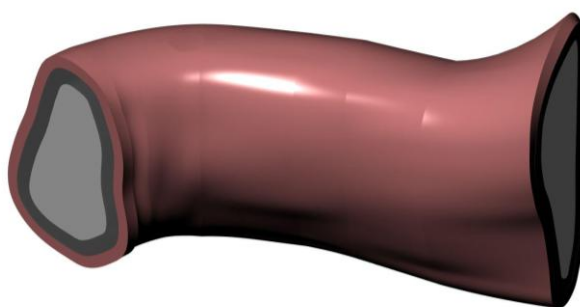


Figura 4. Geometria base (osso cortical, osso trabecular e mucosa) usada em todos os modelos.

Após a adequação da geometria do modelo da mandíbula edêntula, os sólidos que compõem a montagem da prótese, como implantes, sistema de retenção, cápsula e borracha, foram retirados diretamente do catálogo de fornecedores e importados para o software Rhinoceros 3D (NURBS ModelingNoran Engineering, for Windows, EUA).

Após isso, a construção da *overdenture* foi realizada com base em nas suas características clínicas, mantendo uma espessura mínima de 3mm em toda estrutura em contato com a mucosa. Os dentes foram incorporados à *overdenture* utilizando as ferramentas *boolean difference* e *boolean union*. E por fim, para simular uma situação clínica e deixar a *overdenture* compatível com suas características, foram adicionadas estruturas entre os dentes que têm como função simular a papila gengival. O modelo final está representado na Figura 5.

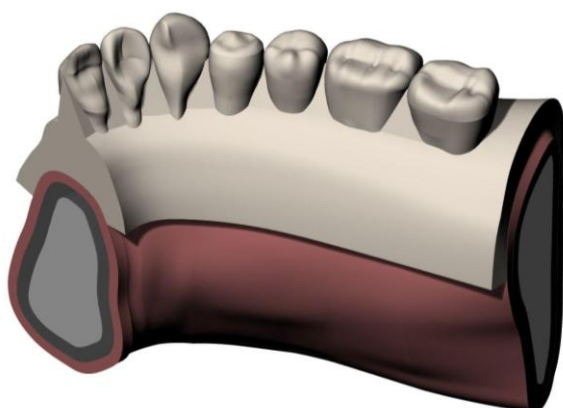


Figura 5. Modelo com osso cortical, osso trabecular, mucosa e *overdenture*.

Após a obtenção da geometria base e a importação dos sólidos, o implante foi posicionado no modelo. Para os modelos com apenas 1 implante, este foi posicionado na região da sínfise mandibular, e para os modelos com 2 implantes, foram posicionados mantendo uma distância de 25 mm de distância entre eles. A ferramenta *boolean difference* foi utilizada para remoção do material biológico (osso cortical e trabecular) para colocação do conjunto implante-componente, e também para criação de cavidades na *overdenture* que dão encaixe ao conjunto retentor (cápsula e borracha), conforme mostra a Figura 6.

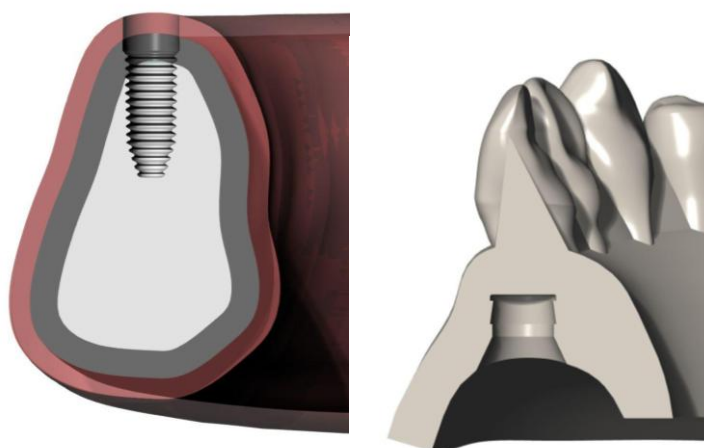


Figura 6. Cavidades criadas para encaixe do conjunto implante-componente na mandíbula e do conjunto cápsula-borracha na *overdenture*.

Com o objetivo de facilitar a construção da malha e o *setup* da análise, algumas superfícies foram separadas, pois delimitam regiões de interesse, como as superfícies de contato entre a *overdenture* e a gengiva e o implante e o sistema de retenção.

Fase de processamento:

Elementos Finitos (Software Altair Hypermesh v2022)

Após a definição das geometrias e as montagens dos modelos, todos os sólidos foram exportados separadamente para o software Altair Hypermesh v2022 em formato *step* e foram reorganizados em componentes de maneira a facilitar a visualização e o processo de criação das malhas.

Desa forma, uma malha 2D de elementos triangulares de primeira ordem (tria3), foi criada em cada superfície dos sólidos que compõem o modelo. Com o objetivo de evitar erros numéricos e divergências durante as análises, o processo de criação de malhas teve início pelo corpo mais interno do conjunto e terminou no corpo mais externo, copiando a malha criada no corpo anterior e utilizando como base para o corpo seguinte.

Ainda sobre a construção da malha, os limites geométricos dos sólidos e as regiões de contato com outros componentes foram respeitadas, com o objetivo de facilitar a determinação dos elementos e aplicar as condições de contorno. Para as regiões que não exigem detalhamento, foi adotada a distribuição de pelo menos 3 nós em cada aresta das superfícies para a definição do tamanho dos elementos, enquanto que para regiões que exigem um maior detalhamento, foi realizado um refinamento maior da malha, criando elementos menores (mantendo uma relação de crescimento de 1,33 para evitar mudanças abruptas na relação de tamanho entre elementos próximos que poderiam gerar descontinuidades entre os elementos). A Tabela 1 mostra o número de elementos e de nós de cada modelo.

Tabela 1. Número de elementos e de nós de cada modelo.

	Elementos (Tetraédricos de primeira ordem = 6 nós por elemento)	Nós
SIMO-2mm	2031753	409884
SIMO-3mm	2180352	437636
SIMO-4mm	2340169	466372
TIMO-2mm	2611193	507676
TIMO-3mm	2236638	440060
TIMO-4mm	2179675	430730

Refino da Malha 3D:

O refinamento da malha 3D está ilustrado nas Figuras de 7 a 13 e os valores numéricos estabelecidos estão nas Tabelas de 3 a 9.

1. Osso cortical:

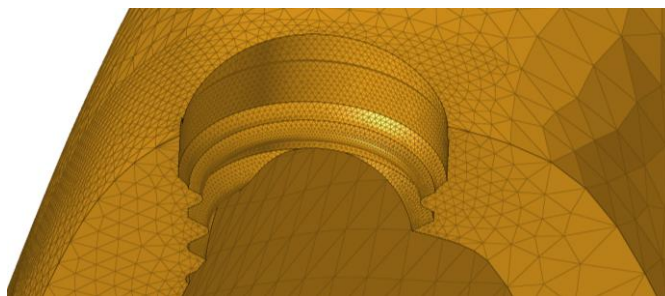


Figura 7. Malha tridimensional do osso cortical na região do implante.

Tabela 3. Tamanho máximo e mínimo dos elementos da malha tridimensional do osso cortical.

Malha	Tamanho máximo (mm)	Tamanho mínimo (mm)
Geral	3	1
Detalhada	2	0.3

2. Mucosa

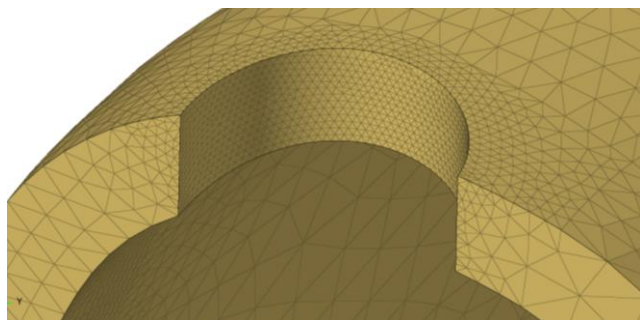


Figura 8. Malha tridimensional da mucosa na região do implante.

Tabela 4. Tamanho máximo e mínimo dos elementos da malha tridimensional da mucosa.

Malha	Tamanho máximo (mm)	Tamanho mínimo (mm)
Geral	1.5	1
Detalhada	0.5	0.2

3. Implante:

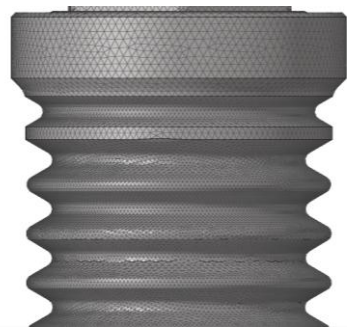


Figura 9. Malha tridimensional do implante.

Tabela 5. Tamanho máximo e mínimo dos elementos da malha tridimensional do implante.

Malha	Tamanho máximo (mm)	Tamanho mínimo (mm)
Geral	0.15	0.08
Detalhada	0.08	0.04

4. Componente:

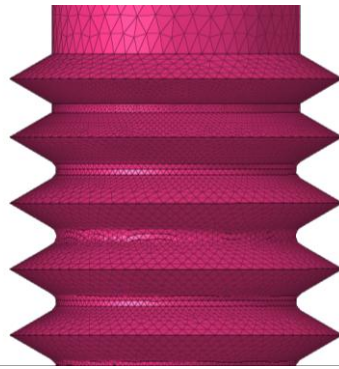


Figura 10. Malha tridimensional do componente.

Tabela 6. Tamanho máximo e mínimo dos elementos da malha tridimensional do componente.

Malha	Tamanho máximo (mm)	Tamanho mínimo (mm)
Geral	0.15	0.08
Detalhada	0.08	0.04

5. Borracha:

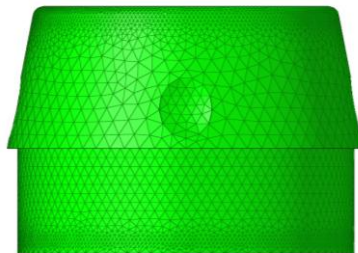


Figura 11. Malha tridimensional da borracha.

Tabela 7. Tamanho máximo e mínimo dos elementos da malha tridimensional da borracha.

Malha	Tamanho máximo (mm)	Tamanho mínimo (mm)
Geral	1	0.5
Detalhada	0.5	0.2

6. Cápsula:

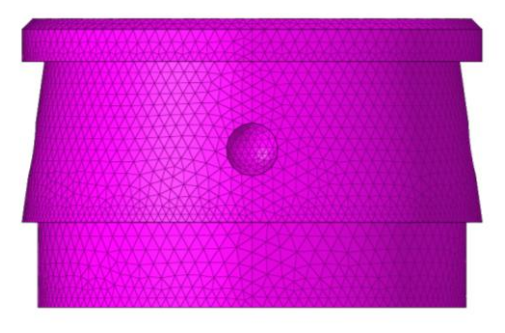


Figura 12. Malha tridimensional da cápsula.

Tabela 8. Tamanho máximo e mínimo dos elementos da malha tridimensional da cápsula.

Malha	Tamanho máximo (mm)	Tamanho mínimo (mm)
Geral	1.5	0.5
Detalhada	0.8	0.3

7. *Overdenture*:

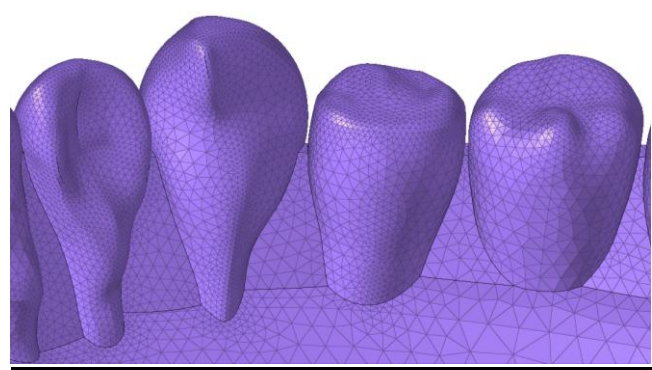


Figura 13. Malha tridimensional da *overdenture*.

Tabela 9. Tamanho máximo e mínimo dos elementos da malha tridimensional da *overdenture*.

Malha	Tamanho máximo (mm)	Tamanho mínimo (mm)
Geral	1.5	1
Detalhada	1	0.3

Malha 3D:

Após o controle de distribuição de elementos e tendo como base a malha 2D, a malha tridimensional (3D) foi construída com elementos tetraédricos de primeira ordem através da ferramenta *tetramesh*. Todas as malhas tridimensionais foram construídas utilizando pelo menos 3 elementos em cada dimensão, tendo como objetivo obter resultados com maior precisão e maior grau de convergência.

Simulações computacionais (Optistruct – Altair Hypermesh 2022):

Após obtenção da malha tridimensional em elementos finitos, os modelos foram preparados aplicando as propriedades mecânicas (Tabela 2) e as simplificações necessárias. Foram definidas as regiões de contato entre os sólidos (*freeze* para contato entre implante e osso; mucosa e osso; cápsula e overdenture; *slide* para demais contatos) e as cargas propostas no projeto de pesquisa foram aplicadas (150 N nos primeiros molares distribuídos em 125 nós; 100 N com angulação de 30° na mesial dos incisivos centrais distribuídos em 73 nós). Por fim, foram realizadas análises lineares estáticas utilizando o *solver* Optistruct em todos os modelos com o objetivo de compreender os mecanismos de distribuição de tensões e os campos de deslocamento de todos os componentes.

Tabela 2. Propriedades mecânicas dos materiais.

Material (Card)	Card	Módulo de Elasticidade (E)	Coefficiente de Poisson (ν)
Osso Cortical	PSOLID	13700 MPa	0,35 ¹
Osso Esponjoso	PSOLID	1370 MPa	0,3 ¹
Mucosa	PSOLID	340 MPa	0,45 ²
Nylon	PSOLID	2400 MPa	0,39 ²
Resina (Overdenture)	PSOLID	8.300 MPa	0,28 ³
Titânio Grau 5 (Implante, equator, cápsula)	PSOLID	103400 MPa	0,35 ¹

Fase de pós-processamento:

(Visualização dos resultados): Software Altair Hyperview 2022:

A visualização dos resultados foi feita através do software Hyperview, em que foram criadas as visualizações de interesse e retiradas as imagens com mapa de cores e escala de valores.

1. Liu J, Pan S, Dong J, Mo Z, Fan Y, Feng H. Influence of implant number on the biomechanical behavior of mandibular implant-retained/ supported overdentures: a three-dimensional finite element analysis. J Dent 2013; 41; 241-249.4
2. Barão VA, Assunção WG, Tabata LF, de Sousa EA, Rocha EP. Effect of different mucosa thickness and resiliency on stress distribution of implant-retained overdentures-2D FEA. Comput Methods Programs Biomed 2008; 92; 213-223.
3. Daas M, Dubois G, Bonnet AS, Lipinski P, Rignon-Bret C. A complete finite element model of a mandibular implant-retained overdenture with two implants comparison between rigid and resilient attachment configurations. Med Eng Phys 2008; 30; 218-225.

ANEXO 1 – Comprovante de Submissão

Journal of the Mechanical Behavior of Biomedical Materials Precision in Mandibular Implant Overdentures: Examining Component Height and Implant Number as Biomechanical Predictors --Manuscript Draft--

Manuscript Number:	JMBBM-D-25-00101
Article Type:	Research Paper
Section/Category:	Metallic Biomaterials
Keywords:	Dental implants; finite element analysis; Attachment height; Implant number
Corresponding Author:	Marcelo Ferraz Mesquita State University of Campinas Dentistry School of Piracicaba Piracicaba, Sao Paulo BRAZIL
First Author:	Ana Paula Guidi Schmidt Hidalgo
Order of Authors:	Ana Paula Guidi Schmidt Hidalgo Thais Barbin Leonardo Mendes Ribeiro Machado Marcelo Ferraz Mesquita Guilherme Almeida Borges

Abstract:	Selection of prosthetic attachment height and implant number can influence the supporting structures of implant mandibular overdentures (IMOs), including peri-implant tissue and prosthetic components. This study evaluated the biomechanical effects of single IMO (SIMO) or two IMO (TIMO) systems with different stud transmucosal heights (2, 3, or 4 mm) on cortical bone, mucosal tissue, implants, and prosthetic elements. Twelve three-dimensional finite element models were created using McNeel Rhinoceros 3D v7.0®, representing scenarios with 2 mm (SIMO-2mm, TIMO-2mm), 3 mm (SIMO-3mm, TIMO-3mm), and 4 mm (SIMO-4mm, TIMO-4mm) heights. Simulations included 100 N oblique loading (30°) on lower central incisors and 150 N axial loading on the first molars. Von Mises stress (implant, housing, stud), maximum and minimal principal stress (bone, tissue, prosthesis, nylon), and displacement were analyzed through numerical data and color-coded images. Oblique loading resulted in higher stress, particularly in SIMO-4mm and TIMO-4mm. Nylon inserts in SIMO configurations experienced high compressive stress, especially in SIMO-4mm. TIMO configurations under oblique loading caused critical stress in peri-implant bone. Prosthetic tensile stress and displacement were greatest in SIMO-4mm under anterior loading. High transmucosal heights increased stress on housing, attachment, and prosthesis, particularly in systems with thin soft tissue. SIMO and TIMO rehabilitations under oblique loading showed high stress in ductile structures, with significant implications for SIMO-4mm due to stress concentration in nylon, prosthesis base, and displacement. Elevated transmucosal heights should be used cautiously in cases of limited soft tissue thickness.
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ANEXO 2 – Verificação de originalidade e prevenção de plágio.

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