

■ ENDODONTICS

Postoperative pain intensity associated with the use of different nickel-titanium shaping systems during single-appointment endodontic retreatment: a randomized clinical trial

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Objective: The objective of this randomized clinical trial was to compare the effect of different NiTi shaping systems on postoperative pain after single-appointment nonsurgical endodontic retreatment. **Method and materials:** Between September 2016 and December 2016, 99 patients with asymptomatic root canal-treated teeth requiring nonsurgical endodontic retreatment were randomly divided into three groups (n = 33 per group). After removing previous root canal filling, instrumentation was performed using One Shape, Revo-S, and WaveOne systems in groups 1, 2, and 3, respectively. Postoperative pain intensity was assessed at 6, 12, 18, 24, 48, and 72 hours, 7 days, and 1 month after the retreatment. Data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA and Mann-Whitney U and Kruskal-Wallis tests

(alpha = .01). **Results:** Up to 72 hours, postoperative pain was significantly less in group 1 than in groups 2 and 3 ($P < .01$). From 72 hours to 7 days, postoperative pain was significantly less in groups 1 and 2 ($P > .05$), compared to group 3 ($P < .01$). At 1 month, postoperative pain was not significantly different among all three groups ($P > .05$). Postoperative pain was the highest with WaveOne group. **Conclusions:** Since One Shape and Revo-S are both based on the rotational approach and WaveOne on reciprocal approach, less incidence of postoperative pain intensity with One Shape and Revo-S in single-appointment nonsurgical endodontic retreatment could be associated with the motion type during root canal shaping. (*Quintessence Int* 2019;50:624–634; doi: 10.3290/j.qi.a42693)

Key words: continuous rotation, postoperative pain, randomized controlled clinical trial, reciprocating motion, retreatment, single-appointment endodontic retreatment

Postoperative dental pain is directly associated with host-dependent factors such as history of preoperative pain¹ and occlusal trauma.^{1,2} However, chemical and mechanical injury or bacterial infection during root canal preparation considered as operator-dependent factors may also induce postoperative dental pain.⁴ During root canal treatment, postoperative pain is mainly caused by apically extruded debris containing bacteria, necrotic tissue, and dentin.^{5,6} Although it is possible to control certain aspects of the treatment, such as irrigation regime, instrumentation technique, and file characteristics, it is impossible to control other aspects such as virulence and bacterial species during the treatment.⁷

Several in-vitro studies have reported some amount of debris extrusion with both manual and engine-driven instrumentation techniques.⁸⁻¹⁰ Furthermore, other studies on apically extruded debris have reported a significant difference between various engine-driven nickel-titanium (NiTi) instrumentation techniques.¹¹⁻¹³ Although those studies mentioned an association between apically extruded debris and postoperative pain, due to the factors mentioned above, the clinical relevance of this association may be plausible particularly in nonsurgical endodontic retreatment. Microbial habitat in previously treated teeth is very different and more resistant to chemomechanical treatment than that in untreated teeth,¹⁴ which

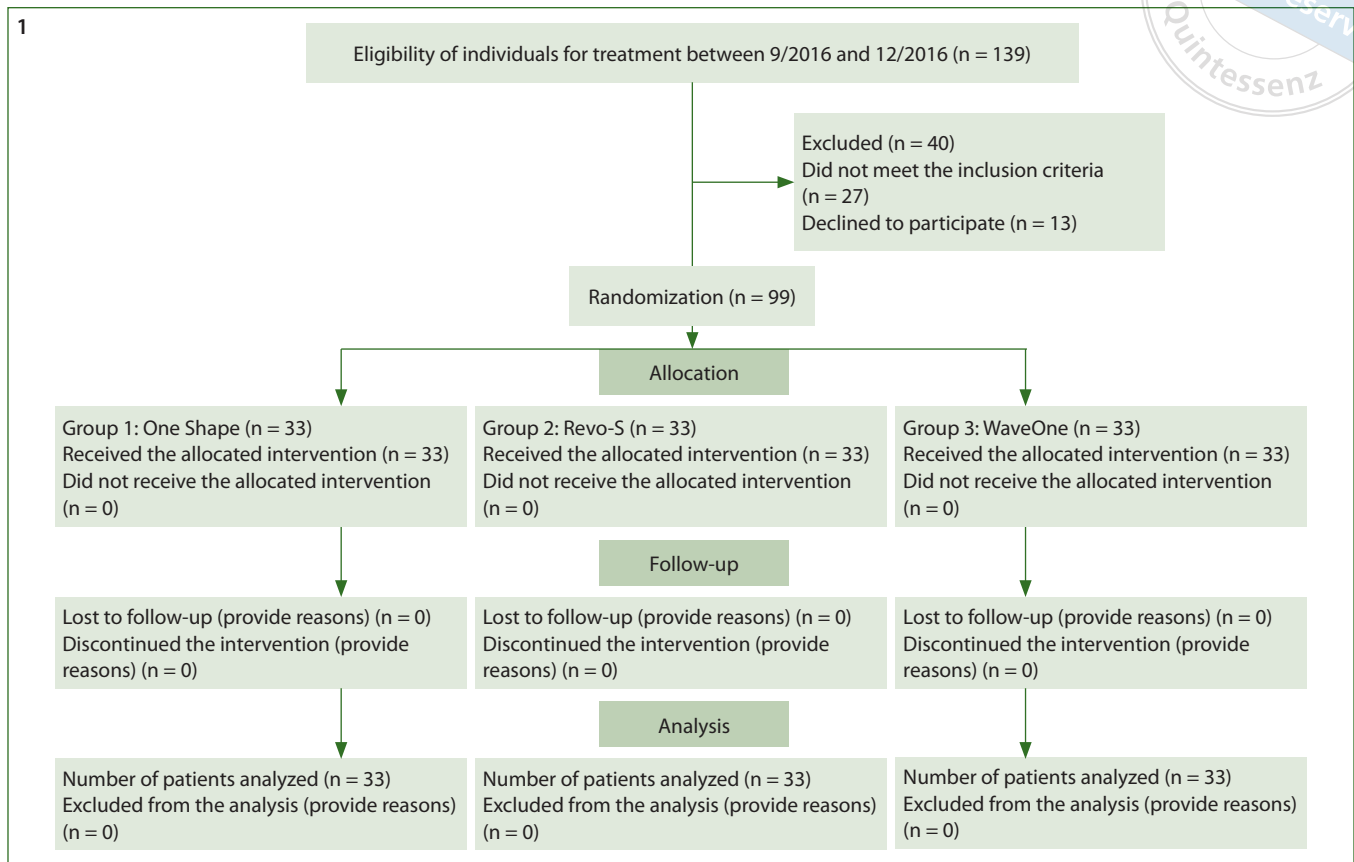


Fig 1 CONSORT flow chart for eligibility, allocation, follow-up, and analysis of the patients receiving single-appointment nonsurgical retreatment using NiTi root canal-shaping systems.

may alter the clinical association between apically extruded debris and postoperative pain caused by host-dependent factors. Therefore, from a clinical view point, a randomized clinical trial may be more suitable for assessing the effect of different instrumentation techniques and file characteristics on postoperative pain, particularly in the presence of complex microbial environments, even though different factors may affect the results. Although clinical studies on postoperative pain are associated with disadvantages such as subjectivity of data and effect of other factors on obtained results,¹⁴⁻¹⁷ comparison of in-vitro data on apically extruded debris with in-vivo data of postoperative pain developed during the retreatment of endodontically failed teeth may improve understanding of postoperative dental pain.

In spite of the fact that previous studies have provided contradicting results on single-appointment nonsurgical root canal treatments,¹⁸⁻²¹ high success rate of these treatments can

be achieved using novel equipment and techniques.^{20,22} Prevention of recontamination, decrease in microleakage, reduction in treatment time, cost and high success rate and patient request of single-appointment treatments have increased the indication of single-appointment nonsurgical retreatments.²³⁻²⁶

Postoperative dental pain may be a poor indicator for long-term success.²⁷ Yet, it may increase the reluctance of clinicians to perform these procedures, necessitating a refinement of the procedure, particularly operator-dependent factors associated with postoperative pain. Therefore, the objective of this clinical trial was to investigate the effect of different engine-driven NiTi root canal-shaping systems on postoperative dental pain in patients with asymptomatic teeth after a single-appointment nonsurgical root canal retreatment. The null hypothesis tested was that there would be no significant difference between the root canal-shaping systems on postoperative dental pain.



Method and materials

Inclusion and exclusion criteria

This study was designed as a single center, single-blind, prospective randomized clinical trial. In addition to approval of the local ethics committee of Istanbul Medipol University, Istanbul, Turkey, the study was registered at clinicaltrials.gov with the ID number NCT03478241. All procedures performed in this study involving human participants were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional and/or national research committee and with the 1964 Helsinki declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards.

Initially, a power analysis (G*Power 3.1.7) was conducted for sample size calculation. It was estimated that a minimum sample size of 26 individuals per group would be required for an effect size (Cohen's effect size) of 0.80 (with an alpha error of 0.05 and a power beta of 0.80) in order to achieve 95% confidence of a true difference between the groups. In case approximately 20% of the patients would not respond, the total adjusted sample size required was calculated to be 96.

Between September 2016 and December 2016, 139 patients with asymptomatic teeth and with no contradictory medical history were assigned for nonsurgical retreatment at the Department of Endodontics, Faculty of Dentistry, Istanbul Medipol University. All teeth presented radiographic evidence of periapical lesion (periapical index > 2) and an initial root canal treatment not shorter than 4 mm.

Exclusion criteria were the following:

- patients younger than 18 years
- patients with symptomatic teeth, teeth with vertical root fractures, excessive periodontal disease, teeth that need periodontal surgery prior to coronal restorations due to marginal deficiency, teeth with damaged or resorbed periapex, or teeth that were treated with a fiber post
- patients who received or required surgical endodontic treatment
- patients diagnosed with systemic diseases
- patients who used analgesics 12 hours before or antibiotics 1 month before the retreatment
- patients who could not abide the follow-up time of the study.

Accordingly, in total 27 patients were excluded from the study and 13 patients declined to participate in the study (Fig 1). Teeth that were root canal-treated at least 2 years before with

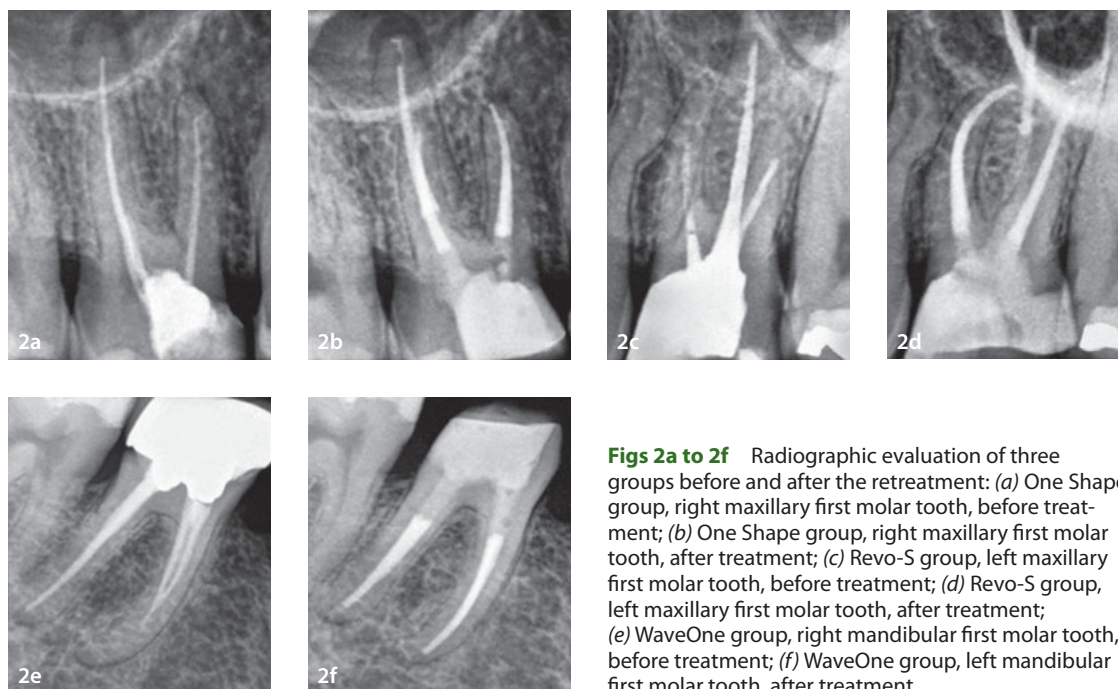
evident periapical lesions clarifying failure of the previous treatment were included in the study.

Patients who met the inclusion criteria and agreed to participate in the study were randomly divided into three groups (n = 33 patients per group). Thus, 99 teeth in 99 patients (53 women and 46 men; mean age: 45.7 ± 13.9 years) were nonsurgically retreated by one endodontics specialist (TFE) who had 14 years' experience. According to the clinical regulations of the department, all new endodontic devices and instruments are practiced in extracted teeth as part of the calibration protocol and then practiced in patients.

All enrolled patients volunteered and signed a written informed consent form. A stratified randomization was used in order to distribute different tooth types homogeneously into their respected groups. In order to achieve this objective, six envelopes were prepared according to different tooth types, namely maxillary molar, mandibular molar, maxillary premolar, mandibular premolar, maxillary anterior, and mandibular anterior teeth. Equal group numbers from all three groups were placed in each envelope to cover the number of teeth to be treated. Hence, 21 numbers (seven from each group) for 21 mandibular molar teeth, 18 numbers (six from each group) for 17 maxillary molar teeth, 15 numbers (five from each group) for 15 mandibular premolar teeth, 27 numbers (nine from each group) for 25 maxillary premolar teeth, nine numbers (three from each group) for eight mandibular anterior teeth, and 15 numbers (five from each group) for 14 maxillary anterior teeth were placed in the respective envelopes. One clinical assistant provided the respective envelopes to the patients and asked them to choose a number from the envelopes.

Removal of previous restorations and root canal fillings

The retreatments were performed in a single appointment under ×3.5 magnification particularly in the morning in order to make it easier for the patients to abide the follow-up time schedule. Before gaining access to the teeth, coronal restorations were removed. Root posts were removed with a surgical clamp (portegue). Previous root canal fillings in the coronal third of the root were removed using no. 1, 2, and 3 Gates Glidden (GG) burs (Mani) after preparing access cavities. Remaining root canal fillings were removed using no. 15 K-files (Mani). Previous root canal fillings were removed carefully and without shaping the root canal walls as much as possible. No chemical solvent was used to remove gutta-percha or sealer, and extreme care was taken not to proceed beyond the apex. Root



Figs 2a to 2f Radiographic evaluation of three groups before and after the retreatment: (a) One Shape group, right maxillary first molar tooth, before treatment; (b) One Shape group, right maxillary first molar tooth, after treatment; (c) Revo-S group, left maxillary first molar tooth, before treatment; (d) Revo-S group, left maxillary first molar tooth, after treatment; (e) WaveOne group, right mandibular first molar tooth, before treatment; (f) WaveOne group, left mandibular first molar tooth, after treatment.

lengths were measured using an apex locator (MM Control, Micro-Méga) before preparing a glide path inside the root canals by using no. 15 K-files. Next, the teeth were divided into three groups for performing the shaping procedure.

Shaping the root canal

- Group 1: In this group, One Shape (Micro-Méga) was used for cleaning and shaping root canals using the crown-down technique. Each tooth was prepared at a distance of 0.5 mm from the apex. Apical 1 (size 30, 0.06 taper) and 2 files (size 35, 0.06 taper) were used respectively for apical shaping. Apical 1 and Apical 2 have 0.06 tapers at only apical 5 mm from the tip of the files. The rest of the files did not have taper. After each instrumentation, root canals were irrigated using 1 mL 2.5% sodium hypochlorite (NaOCl). Final irrigation was performed using 2.5 mL 5% ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA), 2.5 mL 2.5% NaOCl, and 5 mL distilled water. The root canals were filled with Apical 2 gutta-percha (Micro-Méga) using a single-cone technique. MM Seal (Micro-Méga) was used as a filling paste and was introduced inside the root canals using a master cone through brushing motion. Accessory gutta-percha cones (SU 25, Revo-S, Micro-Méga) were used if needed using the non-compaction method (Fig 2).
- Group 2: In this group, Revo-S (Micro-Méga) was used for cleaning and shaping root canals using the crown-down technique. Each tooth was prepared at a distance of 0.5 mm from the apex. SC1, SC2, and SU files were used for shaping, and AS 30, AS 35, and AS 40 files (size 40, 0.06 taper) for apical shaping. Irrigation and final irrigation were performed using protocols similar to those performed for patients in group 1. The single-cone technique was used to introduce the MM Seal into the root canal using AS 40 gutta-percha cone in a brushing motion. Accessory gutta-percha cones (SU 25, Revo-S) were used if needed using the non-compaction method (Fig 2).
- Group 3: In Group 3, WaveOne (Dentsply Maillefer) was used for cleaning and shaping root canals. Each tooth was prepared at a distance of 0.5 mm from the apex. Primary (red; size 25, 0.08) or large (black; size 40, 0.08) files were used according to root canal diameter. Irrigation and final irrigation were performed using protocols similar to those used in patients in groups 1 and 2. The single-cone technique was used to introduce the MM Seal into the root canal by means of a matching gutta-percha cone (WaveOne) in brushing motion. Accessory gutta-percha cones (SU 25, Revo-S) were used if needed employing the non-compaction method (Fig 2).



Table 1 Distribution of number of teeth in 99 patients assigned for each NiTi root shaping system

	Mandibular molar	Maxillary molar	Mandibular premolar	Maxillary premolar	Mandibular anterior	Maxillary anterior	Total
One Shape	7	5	5	8	3	5	33
Revo-S	7	5	5	9	2	5	33
WaveOne	7	6	5	8	3	4	33

Coronal restorations were performed using total-etch adhesive system (Single Bond 2, 3M Espe), according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Root canal orifices were sealed using a flowable composite resin (Filtek Ultimate Flowable, 3M Espe) as the base material. Remaining coronal restorations were performed using composite resin (Filtek Ultimate, 3M Espe) or a fiber post (Cytec Blanco, HT-Glasfiber, E. Hahnenkratt) cemented with composite resin material (RelyX U200, 3M Espe) followed by composite resin (Filtek Ultimate) restoration before performing fixed restoration depending on the prosthetic plan.

Evaluation of postoperative pain

The participants were given a self-administered questionnaire to assess and record their postoperative pain intensity at 6, 12, 18, 24, 48, and 72 hours, 7 days, and 1 month after the retreatment as described in a previous study.¹⁷ Each patient was prescribed naproxen sodium (550 mg) to take only in case of severe pain. Acetaminophen (500 mg) was prescribed if naproxen sodium was contraindicated. In addition, the patients were asked to record the number of days for complete pain resolution. Moreover, postoperative pain was recorded using a four-level verbal rating scale, which was validated in previous studies,^{17,28,29} where 0 indicated no pain, 1 indicated slight pain, 2 indicated moderate pain, and 3 indicated severe pain. Furthermore, the patients were asked to return to the clinic for the controls and bring the questionnaires at 24, 48, and 72 hours, 7 days, and 1 month after the treatment. One clinician performed all the clinical assessments at 24, 48, and 72 hours, 7 days and 1 month. In addition to postoperative pain, unscheduled appointments for emergency treatment or any complication such as postoperative swelling or paresthesia were also recorded in the patient charts.

Statistical analysis

Statistical analysis was performed using Number Cruncher Statistical System 2007 Statistical Software (NCSS). Data were

expressed as mean, standard deviation, median, frequency, percentage, minimum, and maximum values. One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used for intergroup comparisons of parameters showing normal distribution, and Tukey HSD test was used for post-hoc analysis. Independent sample *t* test was used to make comparisons between two groups. Kruskal-Wallis test was used for intergroup comparisons of parameters not showing normal distribution, and Mann-Whitney U test for pairwise comparisons. Pearson chi-square test was used for comparing qualitative data. A *P* value of < .05 was considered statistically significant in all tests.

Results

No drop out was experienced throughout the study. Age, gender, and analgesic use were not significantly different among the study groups (*P* > .05). Patient distribution according to the tooth types is presented in Table 1. The number of patients in each pain category (0 to 3) among the groups at various time points is presented in Table 2.

Statistical analysis indicated significant difference in pain intensity between 6, 12, 18, 24, 48, and 72 hours and 7 days among the groups (*P* = .001). When pairwise comparisons of 6-, 12-, 18-, and 24-hour pain intensity values were compared, Group 3 (WaveOne) group presented the highest pain intensity values, followed by patients treated using Group 2 (Revo-S) (*P* = .001) and One Shape (*P* = .001). Pain intensity values for patients treated using Revo-S (*P* < .01) were significantly higher than those of patients treated using One Shape (*P* = .001) (Table 2 and Fig 3).

Pairwise comparisons of 48- and 72-hour pain intensity values showed that patients treated using WaveOne resulted in the highest pain intensity values, followed by patients treated using Revo-S (*P* = .001) and One Shape (*P* = .001). Moreover, 48-hour pain intensity values in patients treated using Revo-S were significantly higher than those of the patients treated using One Shape (*P* = .002). However, no significant difference

Table 2 Pain intensity levels associated with different NiTi root canal-shaping systems at different time points

Time	Pain score	Group 1: Shape (n = 33)	Group 2: Revo-S (n = 33)	Group 3: WaveOne (n = 33)	P [†]	Pairwise comparison P [‡]
6 h	0 [n (%)]	17 (51.5)	5 (15.2)	1 (3.0)	.001**	3 > 1, 2; 2 > 1
	1 [n (%)]	10 (30.3)	8 (24.2)	4 (12.1)		
	2 [n (%)]	6 (18.2)	18 (54.5)	7 (21.2)		
	3 [n (%)]	0 (0.0)	2 (6.1)	21 (63.6)		
	Median (Q1–Q3)	0 (0–1)	2 (1–2)	3 (2–3)		
	Mean ± SD	0.67 ± 0.78	1.52 ± 0.83	2.45 ± 0–83		
12 h	0 [n (%)]	20 (60.6)	6 (18.2)	1 (3.0)	.001**	3 > 1, 2; 2 > 1
	1 [n (%)]	8 (24.2)	10 (30.3)	7 (21.2)		
	2 [n (%)]	5 (15.2)	16 (48.5)	4 (12.1)		
	3 [n (%)]	0 (0)	1 (3)	21 (63.6)		
	Median (Q1–Q3)	0 (0–1)	2 (1–2)	3 (1.5–3)		
	Mean ± SD	0.55 ± 0.75	1.36 ± 0.82	2.36 ± 0.93		
18 h	0 [n (%)]	21 (63.6)	6 (18.2)	1 (3.0)	.001**	3 > 1, 2; 2 > 1
	1 [n (%)]	7 (21.2)	12 (36.4)	7 (21.2)		
	2 [n (%)]	5 (15.2)	14 (42.4)	8 (24.2)		
	3 [n (%)]	0 (0.0)	1 (3.0)	17 (51.5)		
	Median (Q1–Q3)	0 (0–1)	1 (1–2)	3 (1.5–3)		
	Mean ± SD	0.52 ± 0.76	1.30 ± 0.81	2.24 ± 0.90		
24 h	0 [n (%)]	23 (69.7)	7 (21.2)	1 (3.0)	.001**	3 > 1, 2; 2 > 1
	1 [n (%)]	8 (24.2)	12 (36.4)	9 (27.3)		
	2 [n (%)]	2 (6.1)	13 (39.4)	5 (15.2)		
	3 [n (%)]	0 (0.0)	1 (3.0)	18 (54.5)		
	Median (Q1–Q3)	0 (0–1)	1 (1–2)	3 (1–3)		
	Mean ± SD	0.36 ± 0.60	1.24 ± 0.83	2.21 ± 0.96		
48 h	0 [n (%)]	27 (81.8)	16 (48.5)	6 (18.2)	.001**	3 > 1, 2; 2 > 1
	1 [n (%)]	5 (15.2)	8 (24.2)	6 (18.2)		
	2 [n (%)]	1 (3.0)	8 (24.2)	7 (21.2)		
	3 [n (%)]	0 (0.0)	1 (3.0)	14 (42.4)		
	Median (Q1–Q3)	0 (0–0)	1 (0–2)	2 (1–3)		
	Mean ± SD	0.21 ± 0.48	0.82 ± 0.92	1.88 ± 1.17		
72 h	0 [n (%)]	29 (87.9)	24 (72.7)	13 (39.4)	.001**	3 > 1, 2
	1 [n (%)]	4 (12.1)	6 (18.2)	4 (12.1)		
	2 [n (%)]	0 (0.0)	2 (6.1)	6 (18.2)		
	3 [n (%)]	0 (0.0)	1 (3.0)	10 (30.3)		
	Median (Q1–Q3)	0 (0–0)	0 (0–1)	1 (0–3)		
	Mean ± SD	0.12 ± 0.33	0.39 ± 0.75	1.39 ± 1.30		
7 d	0 [n (%)]	32 (97.0)	31 (93.0)	20 (60.6)	.001**	3 > 1, 2
	1 [n (%)]	1 (3.0)	2 (6.1)	10 (30.3)		
	2 [n (%)]	0 (0.0)	0 (0.0)	3 (9.1)		
	Median (Q1–Q3)	0 (0–0)	0 (0–0)	0 (0–1)		
	Mean ± SD	0.03 ± 0.17	0.06 ± 0.24	0.48 ± 0.67		
1 mo	0 [n (%)]	33 (100.0)	33 (100.0)	33 (100.0)		

**P < .01.

†Kruskal-Wallis test.

‡Mann-Whitney U test. 1, One Shape; 2, Revo-S; 3, WaveOne.

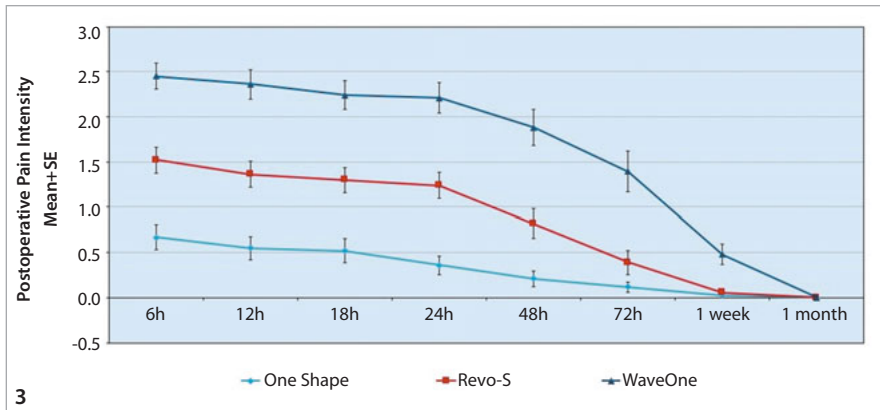


Fig 3 Postoperative pain intensity level among patients in different groups as a function of time.

was observed in 72-hour pain intensity values between patients treated using Revo-S and One Shape ($P = .101$) (Table 2 and Fig 3).

Pairwise comparison of 7-day pain intensity values indicated that patients treated using WaveOne experienced the highest pain intensity values compared to the patients treated with Revo-S ($P = .01$) and One Shape ($P = .01$) files. However, no significant difference was observed in pain intensity values between patients treated using Revo-S and One Shape ($P = .558$) (Table 2 and Fig 3).

None of the patients reported any postoperative pain at 1-month follow-up. Two patients from the One Shape group, three patients from the Revo-S group, and six patients from the WaveOne group used analgesics (naproxen sodium) with no statistically significant difference among the groups ($P > .05$) (Table 2 and Fig 3).

Discussion

This clinical trial investigated the effect of different engine-driven NiTi root canal-shaping systems on postoperative dental pain in patients with asymptomatic teeth after a single-appointment nonsurgical root canal retreatment. Patients in all the groups experienced the highest postoperative pain at 6 hours after the retreatment but pain decreased gradually with time, and no pain was reported at 1 month after the retreatment. Thus, the null hypothesis could be rejected. These results are consistent with those of previous studies evaluating the incidence and severity of postoperative pain at different time points.²⁸⁻³¹

All treatments were completed in a single appointment due to a previous research concluding favorable postoperative pain

intensity results in nonsurgical endodontic retreatments for this approach compared to two-appointment endodontic retreatments.³² Persistent pain after root canal treatment is a common occurrence, with a frequency of 5.4%.³³ It can be classified as either or both odontogenic and nonodontogenic in etiology.^{34,35} While odontogenic origin might be the root canal-treated tooth or the adjacent tooth, nonodontogenic origin was shown to be temporomandibular disorder pain or dentoalveolar pain disorder.³⁵ In order to eliminate the risk of persistent pain, which would affect the results of this study, follow-ups were continued up to 1 month to ascertain the complete relief of pain.

Several factors such as age, gender, pulpal and periradicular status, tooth type, preoperative pain, and technical aspects affect postoperative dental pain.³⁰ Of these factors, only technical aspects, including instrumentation technique, file characteristics, and irrigation and obturation protocols could be controlled by the clinician. These technical aspects, also referred to as operator-dependent factors, are the main causes of nonbiologic (chemical and mechanical) or biologic (bacterial) injuries during root canal preparation.^{4,36} Therefore, in the present study, in order to limit the effect of variables in the procedure and prevent unwanted interaction with the apical tissues, no chemical solvents were used during the removal of the previous root canal filling.

Subjectivity of measurement due to the perception of pain in patients is one of the main problems in pain intensity evaluation studies.¹⁴ Therefore, questionnaire design, patient follow-up, and inclusion and exclusion criteria play a significant role in such studies.¹⁶ Although in some studies tooth type selection was kept to teeth with a single root canal,^{17,37} other studies have included multiple tooth types.^{4,37} Since multiple

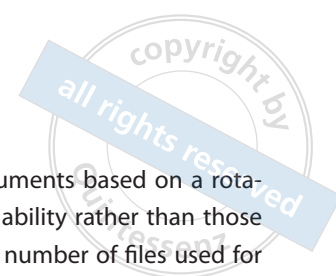
host- and operator-dependent factors affect postoperative pain, homogenous randomization of different tooth types and inclusion of increased numbers of patients should be considered when investigating the relevance and performance of different NiTi root canal-shaping techniques on pain induction. In the present study, the patients were homogeneously randomized according to the tooth types as much as possible in order to decrease this effect on postoperative pain. Although in a previous study 23 patients were assigned,³⁸ the power analysis employed in the present study required inclusion of 33 patients for each group. Furthermore, all the treatments were performed by a single operator to decrease procedural bias.

Previous studies reported a strong association between apically extruded debris due to different instrumentation techniques and postoperative pain,^{40,41} while other studies have suggested some association between apically extruded debris and postoperative pain.^{17,37} However, the complexity of different factors affecting the postoperative pain have raised doubts about this association. Since host-dependent factors have an increased effect on teeth requiring nonsurgical retreatment, it can be suggested that apically extruded debris does not play an important role in the development of postoperative pain, as implicated in previous studies.³⁷⁻⁴¹ As the teeth that do not respond to endodontic treatment may contain persistent bacterial species compared with the species present during the initial endodontic treatment,⁴² host-dependent factors may mask or affect the relationship between apically extruded debris and postoperative pain. Moreover, persistent bacterial species in teeth not responding to endodontic treatment may increase the effect of other operator-dependent factors compared with that of apically extruded debris on the development of postoperative pain from a clinical viewpoint. Numerous studies have highlighted the insufficient cleaning and shaping of apical complexity as important factors in failure of endodontic treatments and persistence of periapical lesions,^{14,43-45} indicating the central role of apical shaping in both treatment success and decreased postoperative pain in these teeth. Therefore, it is important to better understand the relationship between postoperative pain and apically extruded debris, particularly in apically compromised teeth requiring nonsurgical retreatment. Although two meta-analyses have included in-vitro debris extrusion studies while evaluating operator-dependent factors in postoperative pain due to their strong correlation,^{46,47} the effect of other operator- and host-dependent factors on postoperative pain are yet to be verified.

In the present study, patients treated using a reciprocal system (WaveOne) reported significantly higher postoperative

pain intensity values than patients treated using the continuous rotational files (One Shape and Revo-S) until 7 days after the treatment, similar to previous studies,^{37,48,49} concluding that reciprocal files induced significantly more severe postoperative pain than those of continuous rotational files. Therefore, the null hypothesis cannot be accepted when 7-day data are considered. Moreover, these results are consistent with the results of studies that compared apically extruded debris with reciprocal and continuous rotational files, concluding greater apical extrusion of debris in reciprocal motion than continuous rotary motion.^{11,12,50,51} However, the present results contradict other studies that reported no significant difference in postoperative pain in patients treated using reciprocal and continuous rotational files.^{38,37,52-54} The discrepancy among the studies could be explained by different instrument types and study designs where only one type of teeth were used.

A significant difference was observed in postoperative pain intensity between patients treated using the continuous rotational single-file system (One Shape) and continuous rotational multiple-file system (Revo-S) until 72 hours' follow-up, which was inconsistent with the meta-analysis where the instrument design and type of instrument were found more influential on the symptomatic apical periodontitis after root canal treatment than the number of files.⁵³ Moreover, some studies assessing apically extruded debris showed no significant difference between single and multiple continuous rotational file systems.^{12,50} Although several files were used for patients treated using One Shape, due to procedural necessities in nonsurgical retreatment, the intensity of postoperative pain was significantly higher in patients treated using Revo-S than those treated using One Shape. In an in-vitro study, although not significant, reciprocating files was reported to cause the highest amount of debris and irrigant extrusion, followed by single file and multiple file rotary systems.⁵¹ In another in-vitro study where mesiobuccal roots of extracted mandibular first molars were used, One Shape presented better centricity and less transportation abilities compared to Revo-S files. Moreover, apical diameter achieved during the instrumentation was different between the file systems (size 35, 0.06 taper for One Shape and size 40, 0.06 taper for Revo-S), indicating that apical extrusion increases with an increase in apical diameter.⁷ Although the same explanation can be given for patients treated using WaveOne, where only one file with apical preparation diameter of size 40, 0.08 taper or size 25, 0.08 taper was used for root canal shaping, the reciprocal motion seemed to effect postoperative pain more than the prepared apical diameter or number of files used during root canal shaping in single-



appointment nonsurgical retreatment.⁵³ In a recent meta-analysis, higher intensity of postoperative pain was reported after single-visit root canal treatments with reciprocating files than continuous rotation files, which is consistent with the results of the present study.⁵⁵ Reciprocating files cause more debris and irrigant extrusion compared to both single and multiple rotary file systems.⁵⁰ In another randomized clinical trial, the effect on postoperative pain of root canal preparation by a continuous rotation file system (ProTaper Next, Dentsply Sirona) and a reciprocating file system (WaveOne) was evaluated on 42 patients who were in need of root canal treatment, where all treatments were carried out at two appointments. The results indicated significantly higher postoperative pain intensity in the WaveOne group compared to the ProTaper Next group in both appointments.²⁸ However, the highest postoperative pain intensity was recorded 6 hours after both appointments. Based on the results of this study, both statements are consistent with the present results. Future clinical studies reporting on pain intensity should consider the possible effects of the variation in NiTi root canal-shaping systems. ■■

Conclusion

Clinician-dependent factors affecting postoperative pain in a single-appointment nonsurgical endodontic retreatment could

be restrained to using shaping instruments based on a rotational approach with apical-shaping ability rather than those based on a reciprocal approach. The number of files used for root canal shaping and the prepared apical diameter of the root canal did not affect the postoperative pain results as much as the motion type during root canal shaping. The WaveOne NiTi shaping system was associated with the highest postoperative pain intensity values. Both One Shape and Revo-S systems have similar apical-shaping features and are based on the rotational approach, whereas WaveOne is based on the reciprocal approach, which may explain the lower postoperative pain values associated with One Shape and Revo-S in single-appointment nonsurgical endodontic retreatments.

Declaration

The authors declare no conflict of interest regarding any of the materials used in this study.

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