

RESULTS OF TESTING THE ABRASIVE PROPERTIES OF SOME COMMONLY USED TOOTH POWDERS IN SRI LANKA

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A modified method of standard procedure based (Indian Standard Bureau) for testing the abrasiveness of tooth powders was used. The testing of tooth powders were repeated over a period of three years.

Results of these tests revealed that all tooth powders tested were abrasive. The degree of abrasiveness varied from one to another. It is well known that abrasiveness leads to the wearing away of the Enamel of the tooth and exposes the Dentine which often leads to premature loss of teeth.

Similar tests with toothpastes revealed no abrasion, Hence it appears that toothpastes are far superior to toothpowder and they prevent damage to teeth.

Hence it is seen that stricter controls should be enforced on the manufacturers of tooth powders in Sri Lanka to protect the consumer.