Abstract

Orthodontic toothbrush designed specifically to eliminate plaque around brackets, but there are still many patient who use conventional toothbrush. This study aimed to know the effect of an orthodontic toothbrush compare to a conventional toothbrush in reducing plaque index. The plaque index used was a modification of patient hygiene performance (PHP) index developed by Podshadley and Haley. The design of this study was a pre and posttest experimental design. Sample consist of 80 students of dental faculty. The results of the t-test statistical analysis showed that there was a significant difference of reduction plaque index from 2.96 to 2.07 (p <0.05). It can be concluded that a specific orthodontic toothbrush has a better role to reduce the plaque index than a conventional toothbrush.

Key words: orthodontic toothbrush, fixed orthodontic, plaque index