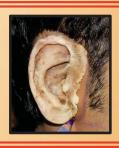
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The most common problem associated with the use of maxillofacial prostheses are the degradation of their color and physical properties over time. These changes are mainly attributed to their exposure to Ultra-violet radiation, humidity, cleansing agents, body fluids, adhesives and sometimes, cosmetics. Silicone prostheses therefore need to be re-made periodically. It is, therefore important to enhance the life of silicone prostheses by preventing/minimising their degradation. This can be achieved by stabilization of the elastomers.



After 1-2 years



Color change in a silicone mix can be due to degradation

Of the pigments
Of the silicone elastomer itself

To study the effect of a UV stabilizers (UV absorbers and Hindered amine light stabilizers) on the color change of silicone elastomer subjected to weathering.



Silicone: Z004 1: 1 platinum based system (Technovent Ltd., UK)



UV stabilizer 1-Chimassorb 81 (BASF,India)





Color testing: Spectrophotometer:-Vita shade 3D master (Vident) using the CieLab system measuring the L,a,b values **Weathering:** Environmental chamber and UV chamber



3 piece mold

The surfaces of the samples were cleaned with acetone to remove any unwanted particles and the color was

measured again

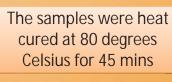
Silicone and UV stabilizers were measured using a digital scale

Weathering in a UV

chamber for 18 hours



The material was manipulated and packed in the mold

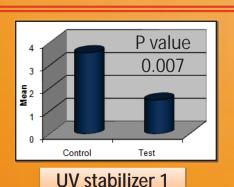


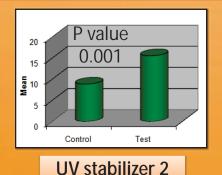


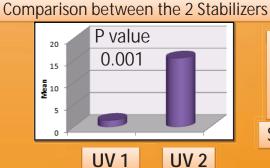
Weathering in an Environmental chamber for 72 hours



Samples were measured(L,a,b values) using a spectrophotometer







UV stabilizer 1 showed significantly lesser color change than UV stabilizer 2

Statistical analysis by Unpaired t test