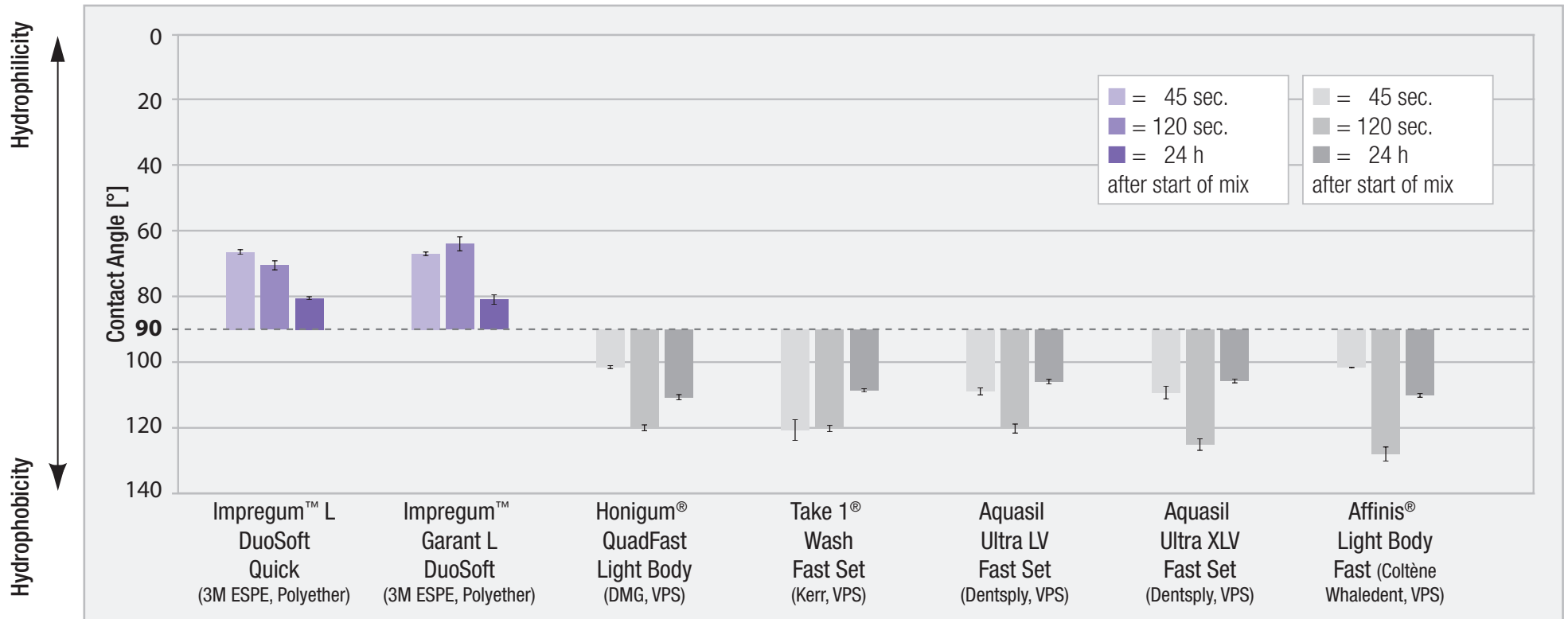


### Initial Contact Angles



Data: G. Kugel et al., Journal of Prosthodontics, Vol. 16, No. 2, 2007, pp. 84-92<sup>(1)</sup>

The contact angle of a water drop placed on the surface of an impression material indicates its hydrophilicity: the lower the contact angle, the higher the hydrophilicity. The figure represents the results of a recent investigation<sup>(1)</sup> that compared the hydrophilicity of five popular VPS materials and two **3M ESPE Impregum™ Polyether Impression Materials** before, during and after setting.

At all three times of measurement both Impregum™ products exhibited the lowest contact angles and therefore the highest hydrophilicity. To ensure excellent results for disinfection and pouring, high hydrophilicity is slightly reduced in the set state. Polyethers are hydrophilic by

nature and show therefore excellent flow properties throughout the working time, whereas VPS materials have to be hydrophilized by surface-active additives that first must “migrate” to the surface before the impression material fully develops its hydrophilic properties.

High hydrophilicity of an impression material right from the start of the working time is of utmost clinical relevance. **3M ESPE Impregum™ Polyether Impression Materials** already favour moist surfaces without any delay during syringing and when the tray is seated – and deliver thus very accurate results in moist clinical situation.