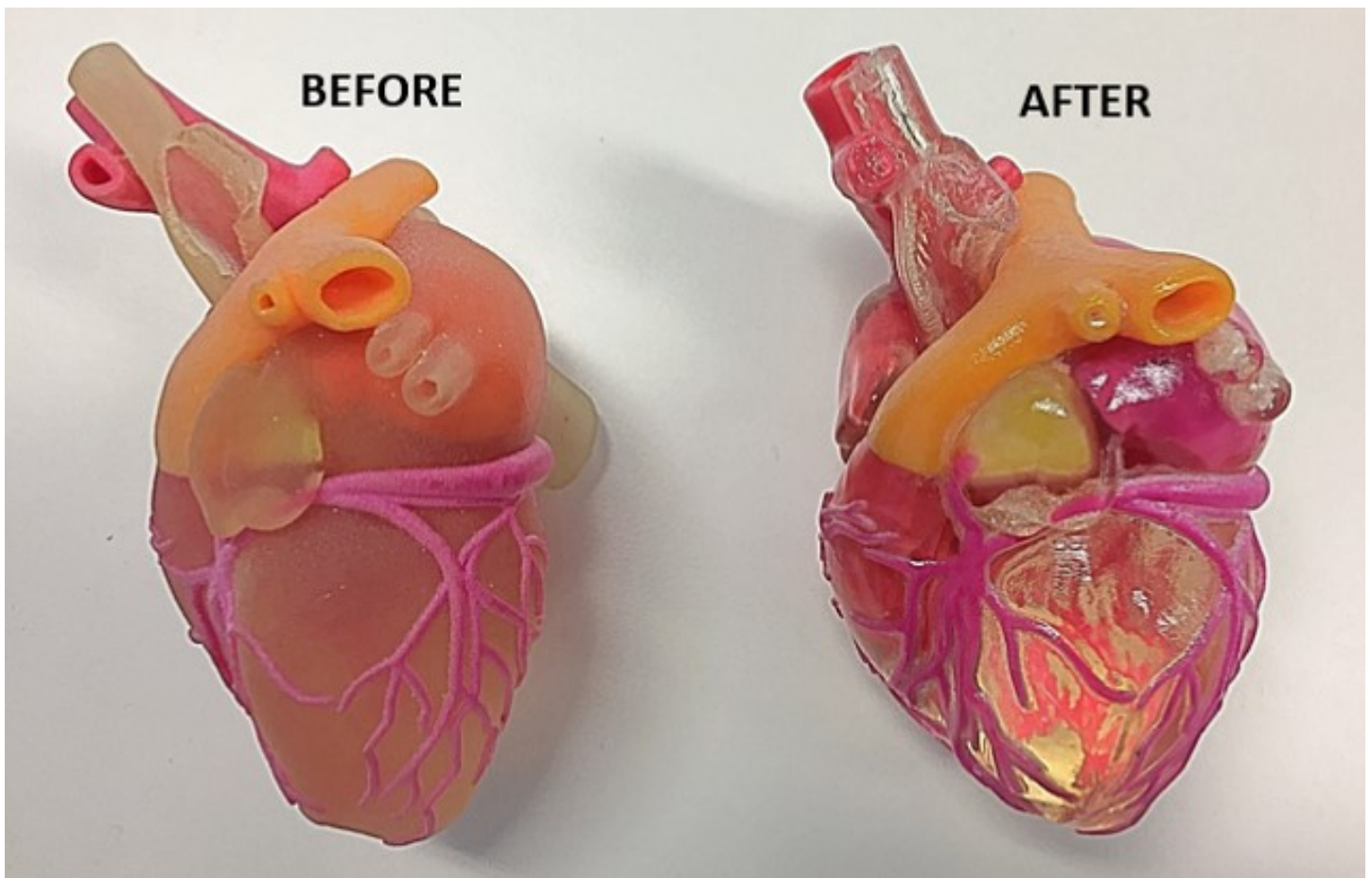


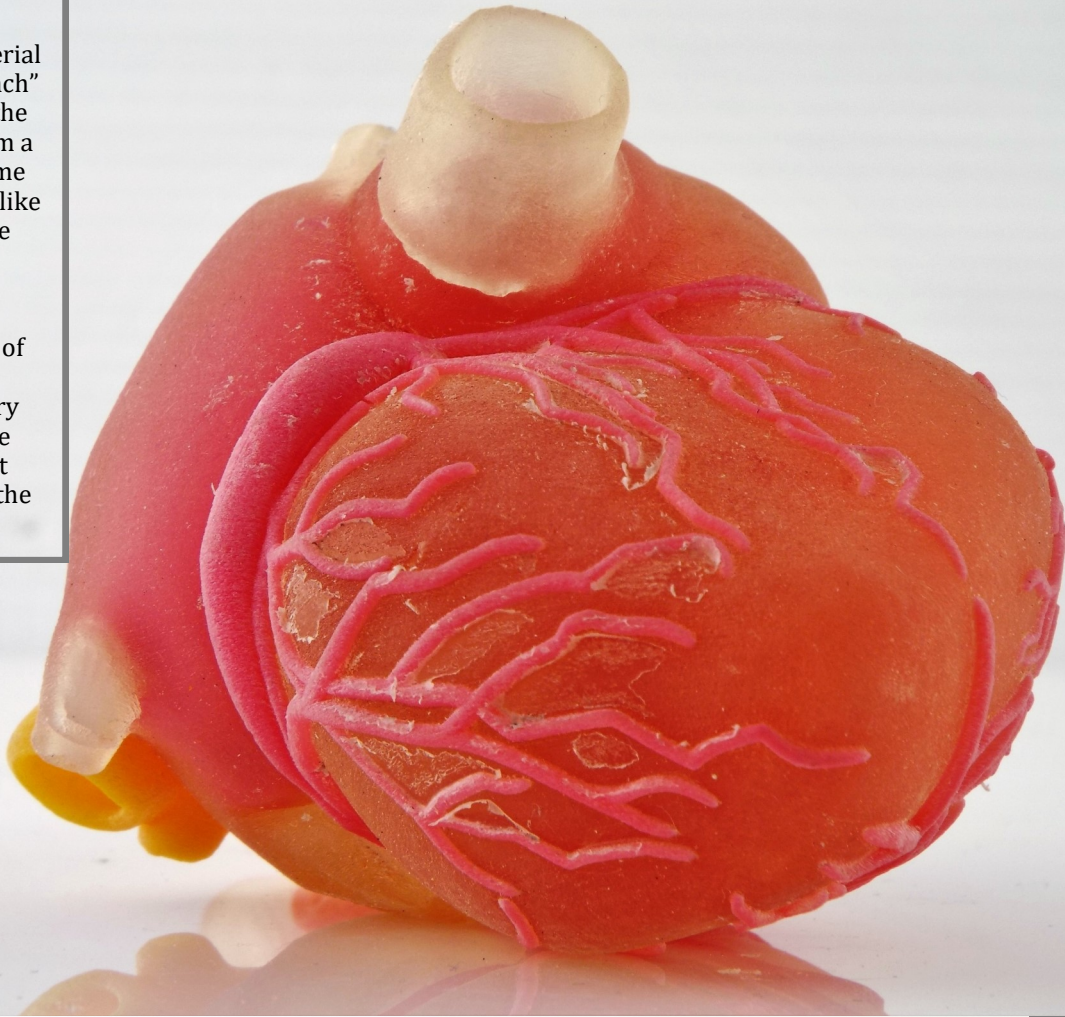
My, step-by-step guide to enhancing new, and rejuvenating your older poly-jet 3d printed objects, without using caustic soda.



Part 1. - Removing residual support materials.

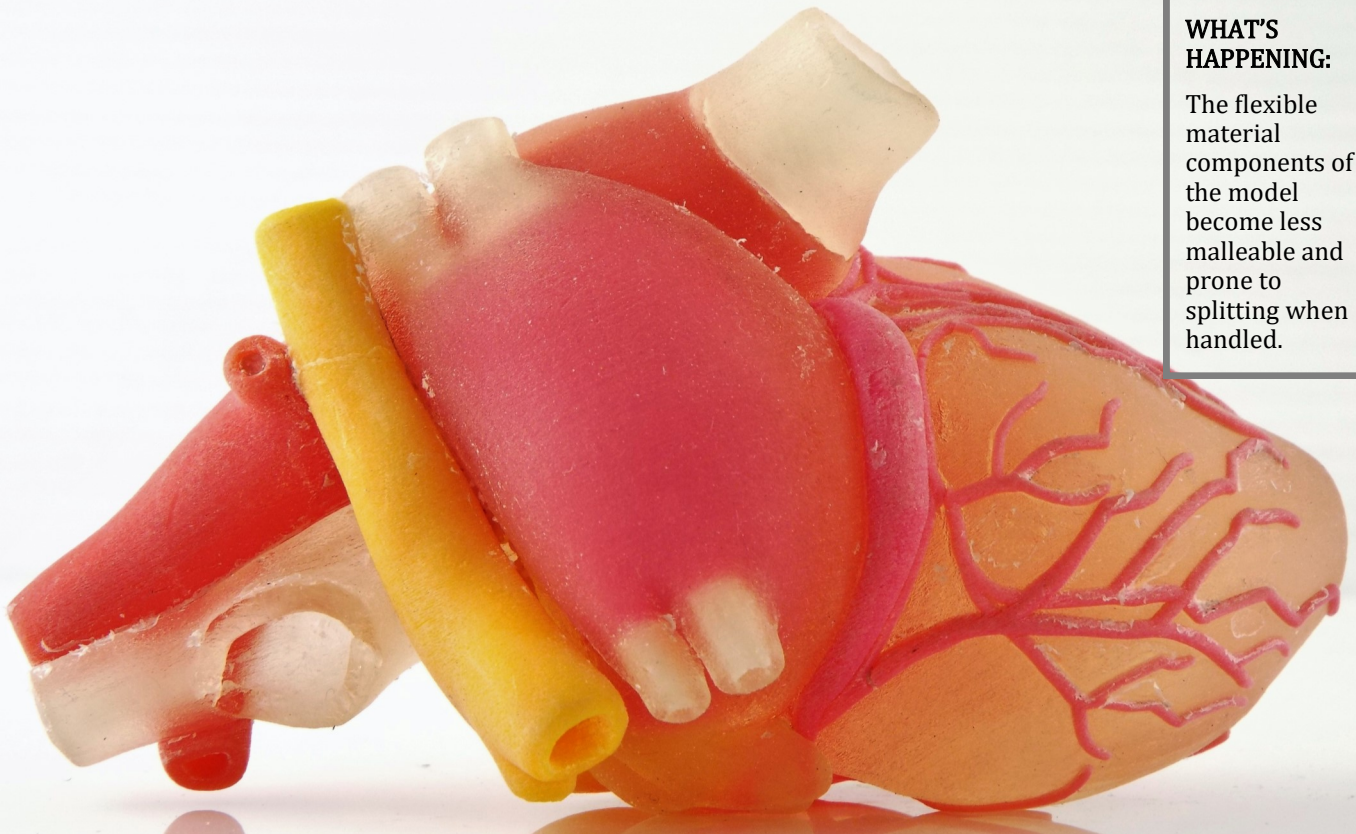
THE PROBLEM:

Over time support material begins to “leach” from within the plastic to form a “furry” or some what cheese-like coating on the surface, dramatically reducing the translucency of the object, making it very difficult to see the important detail inside the model.



WHAT'S HAPPENING:

The flexible material components of the model become less malleable and prone to splitting when handled.



**EQUIPMENT USED:**

Plastic bowl

Soft brush

Poly-clean

Clean water

Clean soft cloth

METHOD:

We tried two techniques. We first sprayed the product, directly onto the model and waited approximately 30 minutes, before using a soft paint brush, which had been dipped into clean water, to help agitate the residue and to reach into crevices. The product is formulated to only foam lightly when agitated. We then wiped the model dry using a clean, soft cloth. A microfiber cloth is ideal for this purpose.

Although we have yet to encounter, nor do we envisage, bleaching colour from material, it would be prudent to test the product first on an inconspicuous area first, to test the colour fastness of the material you are working with.



METHOD:

We also tried soaking the model in a bowl filled with a 50/50 mix of Poly-clean and water for approximately 12 hours. The model was rinsed under a tap and dried with a clean cloth. The model below left, was the model soaked, compared to the model on the right which remains untreated. We noted that the flexible print materials felt far more supple and malleable after treatment. The improvement in clarity and translucency from cleaning only, is visibly improved.



Whether it is necessary to soak your print like we did, we'll leave that up to you to decide, however we do believe there is a case for allowing the product to properly permeate the material. We have found that this working time helps prevent more and deeper support material from leaching.

The amount of support material residue, removed from the model is evident on the bottom of the plastic bowl.



Part 2. Coming soon-coating with Poly-clear.