By Dr Melvin Sia, Malaysia

We are often faced with aesthetically challenging cases in our everyday practice. Selection of the right composite material combined with a comprehensive finishing and polishing protocol is often the key to success in achieving predictable aesthetic restorations.

How often would you attend a hands-on workshop and get to practice what you learnt the very next day in your dental clinic? I recently attended a workshop by Dr. Ronnie Yap on Predictable Class IV Restorations with the ‘Naturomorphic “ONE” Layers Protocol’ based on the MiCD concept introduced by Dr. Sushil Koirala during a major dental conference in Malaysia.

The next day a dentist friend of mine visited the clinic with a fractured anterior tooth where I replicated the layering technique learnt at the workshop.

The patient case shared below is a common clinical situation routinely seen in dental practice where the Shofu range of biosmart composites with its patented S-PRG filler technology was used to showcase composite artistry (Fig. 1).

**Patient Case**
A 33 year old female patient visited my clinic with a fractured restoration on the upper left central incisor tooth after accidentally biting too hard on a metal fork. The patient requested for emergency dental treatment as she was in the organizing committee of the dental conference and had to work the next day.

Intra oral examination revealed, complete fracture of the old composite restoration and the tooth responded positive to vitality test. Patient was advised that the most suitable treatment plan would be to restore the tooth with Biocron tooth coloured composite using the layering technique to achieve the desired aesthetics (Fig. 2).

**Materials used**
After careful examination and shade selection the following materials were identified to complete the restoration:
- **Composite materials**
  - Palatal Shell - Beautifil II Enamel shade T
  - First Dentin layer - Beautifil II LS opaque shade A3
  - Second Dentin layer - Beautifil II LS shade A3
  - Enamel layer - Beautifil Injectable shade BW & Beautifil II LS shade A3
- **Adhesive** - FL-Bond II
- **Finishing & Polishing** - One Gloss, Super-Snap Xtreme Technique kit

**Restorative Approach**
To achieve better tooth form of the final restoration it is important to take the time to create the palatal shell. The first step was to build up the fractured tooth with composite using a finger followed by preparation of the putty index using impression material (Figs. 3, 4).

Labial enamel margins were prepared with a long & star burst using Diamond points. FL-Bond II, a sixth generation 2-step adhesive was applied in combination with the selective enamel etching technique (Figs. 5, 6). Then the palatal shell was created using the putty index with Beautifil II Enamel shade T (Fig. 8).

**Composite Build-up**
Build-up of the dentin layer was done using Beautifil II Opaque shade A3 followed by Beautifil II LS shade A3. As the tooth was opaque with fluorosis, Beautifil Injectable BW was used to mimic some of the white fluorosis patterns in combination with Beautifil II LS shade A3 as the enamel layer. Before the final cure, glycine was applied on the restored tooth surface to minimize the formation of the oxygen inhibition layer (Fig. 7).

**Finishing and Polishing Protocol**
After final light-cure with glycine, the follow-up finishing and polishing protocol was used to achieve the final high gloss restoration surface. Finishing and anatomical contouring was done using Super Fine Diamond points and line angles created with Super Snap violet disk (Fig. 9). Surface texture to mimic the adjacent tooth was achieved with OneGlass polisher.

When using the OneGlass polishers it is recommended to use more pressure with intermittent water for surface texturing and light pressure to smoothen the surface before the final polishing step (Fig. 10). Final polishing was done with Super Snap Xtreme green disk followed by the red disk to achieve the desired lustre of the restored surface (Figs. 11, 12).

Patient being a dentist herself was very satisfied with the aesthetics achieved using the Minimally Invasive Cosmetic Dentistry concept. The shade match and aesthetics of the restored surface were well maintained at the 2 month review visit (Figs: 13a &13b, 14a &14b).

**Conclusion**
The above clinical case illustrates the life-like aesthetics that can be achieved using the naturomorphic ‘ONE Layers protocol’ adopting the Minimally Invasive Cosmetic Dentistry (MiCD) concept with BioSmart composite material. Beautifil II range of composites have a simple shade system with a range of translucency shades that helps to achieve predictable aesthetics in addition to fluoride release and prevention of plaque accumulation. These added benefits of the BioSmart composites helps to prevent caries in addition to creating life-like restorations making it an ideal choice for every dentist.

For more information contact:
Dr. Melvin Sia
BDSc(AWATS), AD(OCD)
Clinical Director of M Dental Clinic
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
E-mail: drmelvin@mdentalclinic.my

**Composite artistry in everyday clinical practice... with BioSmart restoratives**