Solving aesthetic issues in the anterior region with composite

Clinical Case

By Dr Paulo Monteiro, Portugal

About the Case

A 50-year-old male patient presented for professional tooth cleaning. He had deep erosive lesions affecting the vestibular aspects of his maxillary central incisors, which he did not consider an issue. Nevertheless, the team informed him about the options to improve the aesthetics and protect the remaining tooth structure.

Challenge

The biggest challenge was to mask the heavy discoloration while restoring the teeth to a natural shape and shade. 3M™ Filtek™ Universal Restorative was selected to accomplish this task. The Pink Opaquer was applied in a thin layer to cover and optically mask the discolorations.

Outcome

The patient was happy with the treatment outcome. Three things were achieved with minimal effort. The discolored areas were masked, the teeth were restored to their natural shape and the shade blended naturally with the adjacent teeth.

Case Overview: Step by Step

INITIAL SITUATION: Preoperative frontal view of the patient’s teeth, showing severe erosive tooth wear on the vestibular surfaces and incisal edges.

Detailed view of the maxillary incisors. The teeth didn’t show any highly translucent areas, so the use of a single shade/opacity of 3M™ Filtek™ Universal Restorative was selected.

Lateral view of the anterior teeth revealed the depth of the lesions on the vestibular surfaces.

Two anterior matrices were placed to help create a natural anterior tooth shape and facilitate restoration of the interproximal and cervical margins.

A 2 mm layer of the Pink Opaquer (PO) was placed onto the discolored sclerotic dentin to mask dark areas and light cured for 20 seconds. The material offered a similar creamy handling as the body shades and light cured for 20 seconds. The material offered a similar creamy handling as the body shades.

Tooth shade was determined with the aid of the VITA classical A1-D4® shade guide. The shade A1 matched the sound tooth structure. This corresponded with 3M™ Filtek™ Universal Restorative’s A1 shade.

Appearance of the teeth after the first application of 3M™ Filtek™ Universal Restorative A1 shade.

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Restorative was selected.

Detail view of the maxillary incisors. The teeth didn’t show any highly translucent areas, so the use of a single shade/opacity of 3M™ Filtek™ Universal Restorative was selected.

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