Bleach Cases
From dead white to natural bright

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By Aiham Farah, Syria

Substituting the white opaque dentin ceramic material with a high brightness transparent effect is the secret of manipulating the 4 bleach shades (BL4, BL3, BL2, BL1), and the key factor to make them close to the natural-looking shades in our (A-D) shade guide. (Fig 1)

The failure
According to the patient's desire of having bleach veneers, the brightest color of IPS e.max press ingots suitable for veneers fabrication (Low Translucency, LT BL1) is used, followed by delicate cut back and layering Transpa-Incisal powders from IPS e.max Ceram.

On the day of the try-in, patient showed up to the clinic, she was excited to see the new smile. When she looked at the mirror she felt the change. (Fig 5) All the measurements of esthetic quality after placing them on the prepped teeth (dentist stated in privacy). Soon we realized that the discoloration of the prepped dentin continued on darkening during the 10 days lab work process. So at the day of the try-in set with the bleach shade guide held into position were important to be reviewed to find out what to do and what to avoid in the new veneer set. (Fig 6) A black and white photo was important to define the matching level of brightness, and what bleach shade we reached. (Fig 7)

Ingot selection judgment
The Success
Priority number one was making and incisal material and characterize with variety of brighter impulsive colors from IPS e.max Ceram powders. Texturized Fig 9, glazed, then the final outcome was balanced by further manual polishing.

A comparison with the failed previous set; in order to make sure that 1 succeeded boosting the luminosity level was important after transferring the dentin background of the natural prep from the patient mouth to my bench through the IPS Natural die material ND4. (Fig 10)

Cementation
Veneers were finally cemented with Bleach XL (only Base) Variolink-Il resin cement (from IvoclarVivadent), after they have been tried-in and all seating and

Fig 1. Bleach shade guide, (IvoclarVivadent A-D shade guide)

Fig 2. The pre-operative situation

Fig 3. The pre-op situation reflecting the non-vital appearance of the old veneers and the surrounding gingiva

Fig 4. The degree of discoloration of the prepped dentin according the ND shade guide

Fig 5. The patient checking her smile with the first set of veneers

Fig 6. The non-vital appearance of the first set of veneers centrals on the day of Try-in

Fig 7. The hue value of the first set of veneers compared to the bleach shade guide in a BA9 photo

Fig 8a, 8b. Masking test of the MO0 ingot shells

Fig 9. The texturized veneers on the control (non-segmented) model

Fig 10. A comparison between the LT BL3 veneer and the MO0 veneer
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esthet ic parameters of fit have also been checked carefully, fine-grit diamond burs, finishing and polishing rubber heads (OptraFine Assortment, Ivo- clavivadent) were used to remove excess residual cement and to eliminate all occlusal in terferences and to get natural glamour of ceramic surface shine. (Fig 11)

During the follow up appointment, a final checkup and modifications were made to eliminate all occlusal interference.

Relative translucency level

The level of translucency was kept minimal relatively to the patient age and shade whiteness chosen by her, as our priority was to mask and boost the brightness, and brightness and translucency contradicted to a certain extent, though translucency kept relatively minimal. (Fig 12)

Color restriction

What makes bleach cases more complicated is color restriction, as in our present patient case, she wants to keep the old lower veneers that she had before, and replace just the uppers with a brighter and more vital set of bleach veneers, so we are obligated here to keep a chromatic shade matching especially on the cervical part of the upper veneers with the lowers, and increase the level of brightness in the mid-third of the upper veneers than that of the lowers. (Fig 15)

Personality change

What we simply did was changing not just the patient smile literally, but changing the smile on her face emotionally, the feeling that she can look younger pushed her to continue working on herself, and that appeared clearly on each follow up to the clinic she was making, one time skin was taken care off, the next time hair and make up, then back again to the smile to contour it with a better frame of lips by using fillings. (Fig 14) So what we did is that we put her on the beginning of the cosmetic track. (A year after the dental treatment she looked one year younger) what dentist stated. So we contributed to change her life.

Dental Photo shooting

Our patient has a photogenic face and she didn’t mind to be our model for a few photo shooting sessions, which encouraged us to take all possible poses that showed clearly the strength areas and talent in fabricating such cases, some snakes with different contrast were used to show the optical properties of the translucent opal and bright Manzio material used. Thanks to the expert Mr. Florin Stoiboran from Romania who helped in the final photoshoot. (Fig 15, Fig 16, Fig 17)

Conclusion

A decision to repeat the veneers with a new brighter set of veneers was faithfully taken (after recognizing that a flawless set can be achieved if all obstacles can be taken into considerations). The honest and ethical opinion of the dental teamwork (what we did was okay, but we can do better), even if the patient okayed the present outcome. This is what really takes the level of esthetic dentistry to the next level.

I would like to thank Dr. Duwal Aloush for his faithful opinion and esthetic vision that played a big role in the successful outcome of this case.

About the Author

Alham Farah, Syria

Alyum of Dental Technician by the National Board for Certifica- tion in USA (Dental Laboratory Technology) with a specialty of Dental Ceramic. And a member of the National Association of Dental Laboratory in USA, currently he is a material consult- ant and opinion leader for IvoclarVivadent dental company for the Near East & Orient region since 2009, and MDT (Master Dental Technician) certified by the ICDE IvoclarVivadent to the Dental Laboratory in USA, currently he is a material consult- ant and opinion leader for IvoclarVivadent dental company for the Near East & Orient region since 2009, and MDT (Master Dental Technician) certified by the ICDE IvoclarVivadent.

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