The importance of cementation: A veneers case using a new universal cement

By Kerr

E

Esthetic options in den-

tistry are the prevailing

choice of most patients
today. Veneers and bleaching

in particular have become buzz-

words in popular culture, and

TV sitcoms, film and magazine

advertisements have turned these
cosmetic techniques into house-

hold names. As a result, dental

teams must accommodate the
demands of their patients, be-

coming highly versed in placing

metal-free restorations.

Practitioners can find a multi-

tude of educational articles and
courses teaching the science

and technology of porcelain, zir-

conia and composite. But while

emphasis is frequently placed

on the final prosthesis or direct

restoration, often overlooked

are the increasingly important

auxiliary materials that contrib-

ute equally to the clinical suc-

cess of these new materials and

restorations: impression and

provisional materials, bonding

agents and cements. Education

is imperative because cementa-

tion and bonding are two areas

of esthetic dentistry that have

evolved through generations

of esthetic dentistry that have

been successful.3

This article outlines a veneers

case using NX3® Ceramic

Third Generation—a new, universal
cement from Kerr. The subject

is a long-standing patient-of-re-
cord with a current radiological

and medical chart. This focus is

on the steps and techniques im-

plemented at final cementation

of the prostheses.

Clinical Case

A female patient in her mid-

forties presented a chief

complaint of being unhappy with her

smile. An examination of her hard
tissues revealed immediate

concerns of multiple fractures,
hypocalcification, shortened an-
terior teeth due to wear and an

asymmetrical smile line (Fig-

ures 1 and 2).

After proposing a first phase

treatment plan to restore all of

her compromised upper ante-

rior teeth, the patient consented
to restoring only teeth numbers

6-11. The patient ultimately

accepted veneers to be cemented all at

once (as opposed to cementing the

centrales first, laterals second,

and so on) because of its unique

"thixotropic" properties, which

enable the patient to stay at the
to be "thixotropic," the consist-

ency of non-drip paint; the resto-

rations were seated and adjusted

before curing with no dripping

or running. Color stability, ease-

of use and cleanup, color match

and optimum retention are

some of the attributes necessary

when choosing a cement—NX3

met all of these expectations.

References

1. Kugel G, Ferrari M: The sci-

ence of bonding: from first to

sixth generation. J Am Dent As-

soc. 2000 June;131 Suppl: 20S-

25S.

2. Tontini B, Miura P: Light trans-

mission in bonded ceramic restora-


5:11-18.

3. Sheets C, Taniguchi T: Advan-

tages and limitations in the use of

ceramic veneer restorations. J

Prosthod Dent 1999; 82:406-

411.

Conclusion

Cementation is an important

aspect of functional aesthetics.

An understanding of chemistry,
technology and physical proper-
ties are all essential to proper us-
egage and clinical success. Cement

selection was the driving factor in

choosing the bonding system for

this case. NX3® Ceramic cements

met all of these expectations.

About the Author

Dr. Mitch Conditt, a 1985 gradu-

ate of Baylor College of Dentistry

in Dallas, TX, lectures inter-

ationally and has published nu-

merous articles reviewing all as-

pects of restorative and cosmetic
dentistry.