

THE USE OF ADHESIVE MATERIALS IN GINGIVAL AESTHETICS

G Calvert¹, A Alani¹

¹ The Dental Hospital, Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospital Foundation Trust, Newcastle, UK.

Gingival recession and its co-morbidities can present with both pulpal symptoms and aesthetic problems. The replication of optimal gingival contour and aesthetics can be addressed by prosthetic or surgical managements^{1,2}. Surgical management in particular can present with significant morbidities for the patients as well as having a degree of technique sensitivity³. These difficulties are exacerbated in the presence of a 'high smile line' and loss of interdental papillae: 'black triangle syndrome'⁴. As such, clinicians are developing alternative adhesive solutions to this restorative dilemma for the dentate patient such as, gingival coloured porcelain⁵ and gingival coloured composite⁶.

Zalkind and Hochman were the first to detail the use of gingivally coloured adhesive resin in the management of cervical defects⁶. This technique was included in a recent review of prosthetic options to mask periodontal discrepancies⁷.

This case details treatment of gingival recession in a patient with a high smile line utilising gingivally coloured composite. One year post non-surgical periodontal management a stable periodontal condition resulted in marked recession localised to the labial surface of the upper central incisors. On review, due to dentine hypersensitivity labial composites were placed by her GDP. Six months following, marginal break down and staining was of concern to her. At this point the existing composite was replaced with supragingival, appropriately contoured gingivally coloured composite on the 13, 11, 21 and 23. The patient was very happy with the final result.

References

1. İşıksal E, Hazar S, Akyağın S. Smile esthetics: perception and comparison of treated and untreated smiles. *Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop* 2006; 129: 8–16.
2. LaVacca M I, Tarnow D P, Cisneros G J. Interdental papilla length and the perception of aesthetics. *Pract Proced Aesthet Dent* 2005; 17: 405–412
3. Wennström J L, Pini Prato G P. Mucogingival therapy. In Lindhe J, Karring T, Lang N P (eds) *Clinical periodontology and implant dentistry*. 3rd ed. pp 550–596. Copenhagen: Munksgaard, 1997.
4. Clark D. "Restoratively driven papilla regeneration: correcting the dreaded 'black triangle'" *Tex Dent J* 2008; 125: 1112–1115.
5. Capa N. An alternative treatment approach to gingival recession: gingiva-colored partial porcelain veneers: a clinical report. *J Prosthet Dent* 2007; 98: 82–84.

6. Zalkind M, Hochman N. Alternative method of conservative esthetic treatment for gingival recession. *J Prosthet Dent* 1997; 77: 561–563.

7. Alani A. Maglad A. and Nohl F. The prosthetic management of gingival aesthetics. *Br Dent J* 2011; 210: 63–69