

## THE USE OF ADHESIVE MATERIALS IN GINGIVAL AESTHETICS

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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<sup>1,2</sup>. Surgical management in particular can present with significant morbidities for the patients as well as having a degree of technique sensitivity<sup>3</sup>. These difficulties are exacerbated in the presence of a 'high smile line' and loss of interdental papillae: 'black triangle syndrome'<sup>4</sup>. As such, clinicians are developing alternative adhesive solutions to this restorative dilemma for the dentate patient such as, gingival coloured porcelain<sup>5</sup> and gingival coloured composite<sup>6</sup>.

Zalkind and Hochman were the first to detail the use of gingivally coloured adhesive resin in the management of cervical defects<sup>6</sup>. This technique was included in a recent review of prosthetic options to mask periodontal discrepancies<sup>7</sup>.

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

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