

Clinical Case Spotlight

Indirect “Single Visit” Onlay

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Introduction to the case

Often patients are unaware of the cracks or cavities in their teeth. It is only when a tooth hurts, or breaks do most patients realise the need to get their teeth checked. Often, we can pre-empt things like teeth cracking, based on the presence of existing cracks, heavy occlusion or history of previous tooth loss due to a crack. In this case, the patient had an asymptomatic cracked upper premolar tooth which was picked up during a routine dental check up. The patient was shown the photograph of the tooth and made aware of the situation, with a recommendation to having the tooth restored. However, the patient declined any treatment as he was not experiencing any symptoms from the tooth. 6 months later, the tooth cracked and now the patient could not put off treatment any further.

The tooth was restored using CEREC with a ceramic-resin hybrid crown/onlay in one visit.



Treatment steps



1 Upper second premolar noted to have a crack during routine dental check up- patient advised and treatment recommended- patient declined treatment due to a lack of symptoms.



2 6 months later, the palatal cusp has completely sheared off.



3 Tooth is isolated with a dental dam.



4 The amalgam restoration is removed.



5 Tooth surface is sandblasted to create a clean substrate to bond resin to create a core over the deepest dentine.



6 Tooth is scanned using CEREC and the margin is drawn to fabricate a crown/onlay.



7 The tooth is isolated again to bond the restoration. A piece of superfloss is placed on the distal contact area to help clean any excess cement from the area easily and the adjacent tooth is covered with a piece of Teflon tape.



8 The crown is cemented using some warmed composite resin.



9 After removing all the excess cement.



10 Buccal margin kept high to preserve as much tooth structure as possible.

Material and Method

Restoration made using CEREC Omnicam with a Cerasmart Hybrid Ceramic CAD/CAM Block.

Discussion and Conclusion

The use of CEREC allows difficult indirect restorations to be tackled easily, with no need for provisionalisation or contamination of the dentine substrate as the treatment can be completed in a single visit, making things much more convenient for the patient and the clinician.

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