Case study

ESTHETIC CONSIDERATIONS WHEN RESTORING SINGLE MAXILLARY CENTRAL INCISOR.

SHORT TITLE : REHABILITATION OF MAXILLARY CENTRAL INCISOR

SUMMARY:

The aim of this article is to illustrate the esthetic rehabilitation of discolored maxillary central incisor according to dominance principle based on establishing ideal proportions. the factors that can affect the esthetic value of dental supported crown in aesthetic zone are also discussed. These parameters include abutment color, ceramic thickness, the opacity of luting agent and gingival contours.

It describes 2 clinical situations of restoring discolored maxillary central incisors using all ceramic crowns. The patients presented with hidden smiles and were asking for improvement of their appreance. For both, clincal examination showed discrepancy between central incisors. The treatment plan included Lithium Dissilicate Ceramic crowns. The opacity of the material was selected according to the abutment discoloration. An IPS Natural Die Material shade guide was also used. The restorations were bonded using a resin material. Finally, Pink/white aesthetic score *PES/WES* was applied to evaluate the esthetic result

KEY WORDS:

Maxillary central incisor, Aesthetics, Glass ceramics, Luting agent, Abutment teeth color.

INTRODUCTION

Restoring maxillary central incisor is a challenge at several levels. Scientists are in general agreement that its morphological features, which should be closely correlated with facial proportions, are influential factors in esthetic perception. Williams et al. demonstrated that the tooth shape is determined by facial form (1); But many other studies have found no correlation between facial outline and preferred tooth shape (2). As the central incisor should be the most dominant teeth displayed during the smile, several tools have been suggested for assessing its dominance such as shape, size, shade, The incisal edge position and proportions; They constitute starting points for aesthetic management of maxillary central incisor. (3, 4, 5)

The width of maxillary central incisor is expected to be proportional to its length which determines the width/Length ratio. According to literature, it was evaluated to be between 75 % and 78% (6). Recent studies demonstrated similarities between professionals and non professionals regarding the dominance of central incisor in dental esthetic perception (7). They, both, don't accept any reduction in an average central incisor length. However, a reduction of the width of lateral incisor about 0.5 mm can be unperceived. (6).

Establishing correct proportions of central incisor depends also , according to Spear & Kokich, on achieving ideal gingival levels especially when gingival contours are altered. In the same context, assesing the papilla level relatively to the overal crown length of maxillary central incisor is also considered as important as criteria previously mentioned. It is in fact an important step in the process of establishing a correct position of maxillary anterior teeth (8).

Restoring discolored abutment teeth in aesthetic zone poses a problem regarding the ceramic material selection. In such situations, dark abutments may negatively affect the esthetic value of a translucent ceramic crown conducting to a discoloration of the restoration especially in the cervical region. (9)

Material selection depends essencially on the degree of abutment color. With Dissilicate Ceramic crown, final esthetic result is , according to recent studies , interplaying between multiple parameters including ceramic thickness , substrate shade and luting agent color. (10)

Correct restoration colour match is a key requirement for patient satisfaction. It is, so, important to realise that the clinician need to have basic knowledge of light science. He is considered to be the responsible for creating a less confusing communication with the laboratory via some tools such as graphics, shade mapping cards, esthetic checklists and shade guide .(11, 12)

Using reliable indices for objective esthetic evaluation is a fundamental step in order to monitor the results over time.

Various indices such pink/white esthetic score (PES/WES) were proposed. According to litterature , this score is recommended to both soft and hard tissues evaluation in implant supported restorations. (13)

It includes 5 parameters and a score of 2,1 or 0 was assigned to each parameter. It's validity for natural tooth was discussed recently by authors(14).

CLINICAL DISCUSSION

This clinical presentation is dealing with two situations of rehabilitation of discoloured central incisors; concerning 23 years old male and female patients with a chief complaint of poor aesthetics. They were asking for improvement of their smiles and bothered about the discrepency between maxillary central incisors [Fig 1 and Fig 14].

In the first situation, Intra oral examination revealed a resin composite restoration on the cencerned teeth with discolored margins. [Fig2].

Periodontal probing revealed a thick gingival biotype ; with gingival thickness of 2 mm and a sulcus depth of 2 mm. Altered gingival contours, leading to inadequate Width –to-height ratio and discrepancy between the 2 central incisors, were also detected . Radiological examination shows an adequate canal root treatment[Fig 3].

Photographs were taken using NIKON D7100 Camera . A comprehensive Esthetic evaluation was performed according to the asthetic cheklist of *MAURO FRADENI*; Facial and dentolabial analysis and data were gathered [Fig 4; part1- part3].

The patient presents a convex profile with parallel commissural and bipupular lines. No harmonious smile line with squared teeth form and size discrepancy were noticed.

The treatment procedure started by a periodontal treatment consisting on periodontal scaling ; followed then by aesthetic crown lengthening and Lithium Dissilicate Ceramic crown.

Shade selection was performed before any procedure to avoid deshydratation of the tooth. A color mapping card was performed referring to the right central incisor; It was divided into 4 to five areas starting by the apical third to the incisal [Fig 5].

The tooth was prepared for all ceramic crown with internal rounded shoulder at subgingival level edges with no sharp angles(Fig 6). the abutment teeth shade was, then, determined using the IPS Natural Die Material shade guide (IVOCLAR VIVADENT).

The management of the provisional restoration, with precisely fitting and highly polished margins, is a fundamental step. Its role was essntial for the healing process. It was performed using an acrylic resin and placed prior to gingivoplasty, margins were then modified according to new gingival levels (Fig 7).

Aesthetic crown lengthening using a gingivoplasty (Fig 8). It contributes, first, to the correction of gingival asymmetries; Second, it leads to correct width –To Length ratio which was estimated around 76% according to measurements. Snow recommended, central incisor width 25% of interncanine distnace(6).

As mentioned by authors, soft tissues healing is mostly completed after 8 weeks. Definitive restoration can be, then, successfully placed within 8–12 weeks (Fig 9,10,11). The impression step should be delayed until a subsequent appointment once soft tissue health has been re-established. (15, 16,17,18)

According to Mizrahi ; acrylic resin increased versatility in modification of shape and colour(11).

The frequency with which the provisional restoration is modified is related to the expected soft-tissue rebound (19).

A second indirect provisional restoration was manufactured by CAD-CAM technique using PMMA (methymethacrylate based resin) with high mechanical propreties compared to conventional provisional restoration. It gives the technician Suffisant time to fabricate the ceramic crown (Fig 12).

The shape of teeth was also verified at this stage. Central incisor can have 3 main shapes(square, tapared, triangualr).

According to a recent systematic review which was dealing with lay preferences for dentogingiva esthetic parameters, it has been shown that tapered incisors are the most attractive in both male and female (20). The incisal edge position of the central incisor if of great importance in esthetic perception; it should be parallel to bipupular plan . As mentioned by authors, vertical asymetries as small as 0.6 were perceived as unacceptable according to Brasilian population (21).

In the second situation, left upper central incisor was endodontically treated and severely discolored. A comprehensive Esthetic assessment showed a reverse smile line, angular teeth form and inadequate Width –to-height ratio (Fig13-14). the abutment color was evaluated as ND9 according to shade guide previously used (Fig15).

Ceramic material selection was essentially depending on the abutment shade (ND9). High translucent material was, then, rejected in favor of opacious one that can mask the colored underlying substrate (22). Zirconia, inspite of its low translucency compared to Glass Ceramics, it should be avoided for his Milky white colour (23). Lithium Dissilicate Ceramic, which was manufactured with different opacities, can be indicated. Medium or high opacity are recommended.

Final restorations were, then, performed using Lithium Dissilicate Ceramic material (E max Cad Cam ceramic- Ivoclar vivadent); Low opacity block was used for the first patient , Meanwhile, A medium opacity material was recommended for the second one. (Fig16). ; it was associated with ND9 abutment color. The CAD/CAM technology (CEREC IN IAB) was performed. blocks were used for cores and then veneered later (24).

Characterization of central incisor surface texture is as important as matching the shade. Indeed, it is important to consider anatomical shape characterising the buccal surface of the central.

Regarding the contact area a slightly more apical contact, compared to the mesial one.three ridges and two concavities are created with a cervical area which is basically triangular; the

disto-incisal angle is rounded. Three ridges and two concavities were overall created to mimic a natural micro-geography aspect.

An aesthetic try in of the crown was made before crowns staining and glazing. This allows verification of the crown morphology and colour . At this stage, the incisal edge position, the midline, the axial inclination, the gingival margins and the papilla level have been verified.the tickness of ceramic material was also cheched (Fig17).

As recommended by authors, a ceramic thickness of 2mm, which is sufficient to mitigate the dark aspect of underlying substrate. Less than 2mm, the luting agent should be selected of a medium opacity (25);

The crowns were bonded using a dual cured resin luting cement (Variolink N. Ivoclar Vivadent, ref #642981 AN) according to the protocol described by Magne and Cascione (2006). First, The internal surface of the crown was thoroughly rinsed with water and cleaned with alchohol . Second, the ceramic restoration was etched during 60 to 90 sec using HFl (9%) acid; then fresh silane was applied for 60 sec .Third, the tooth surface was etched with 36% ortho phosphoric acid. Finally, bonding agent was applied. All cement should be removed before polymerisation and any residual cement remaining after polymerisation should be removed with a sickle scaler or a #12 scalpel blade.

Resin cement may cause visually inaceptable color changes with thin ceramic restorations ; the color change effect decreases when the ceramic thickness increases . It concerns especially laminate veneers of 0.5 to 1 mm of thickness (25).

the final restrations were assessed using *White/ Pink esthetic (WES/PES)* (Fig18, Fig 19). According to literatue *WES /PES* index was essencially recommended to evaluate supported implant restorations, but its rightness for objective evaluation of single tooth crown has been confirmed by recent studies.

Significant differences between initial and final scores of the *WES/PES* were evident. For the first patient, The white score (PES) increased_ from (1/10) to (8/10); However, the Pink score (PES(PES) was improved_ from (5/10) to (9/10) [Fig20]. In the second situation, only whit esthetic score was applied for evaluation and it reached 8/10 (Fig21).

CONCLUSION

Restoring single central incisor, according to the principle of dominance, remains a challenge for prosthodontics ; for that they should respect some guidelines regarding the shade, proportions, size.

Shade selection, ceramic material choice and appropriate communication with laboratory technician are combined factors for success.

The underlying tooth structure has primary effect on the appearance of the definitive ceramic restration. To eliminate this undesirable effect factors such as ceramic thickness, ceramic shade and cement color should be considered.

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FIGURES



Fig 1: Preoperative view of the patient's natural smile



Fig 2: Retracted preoperative full-mouth view showing discoloured margins of resin



Fig 3 : Radiological examination



Fig 5: Color mapping schema



Fig 6 : Abutment tooth after healing period : tooth preparation



Fig 7 : Provisional restoration placed immediately after crown lenthening using acrylic resin



Fig 8 (A,B): Crown lengthening [gingivoplasty]



А

В

Fig 9 (A,B): Retracted close-up postoperative view of the maxillary anterior restoration



Fig 10: Facial postoperative view of the patient's natural smile



Fig 11: Right lateral postoperative view of the patient in natural smile



Fig12 : CAD/CAM provisional restoration



Fig 13: Preoperative view of the patient's natural smile.



Fig 14: Retracted close-up preoperative view.



Fig15: Discolored abutment teeth; ND9



Fig16: Medium opacity ceramic material



Fig17: ceramic thickness of the final restoration



Fig18: Retracted close-up postoperative view of the maxillary anterior restoration.



Fig 19: Facial postoperative view of the patient's natural smile



PES: Pink esthetic score

(1)Mesial Papilla	012
(2) Distal Papilla	012
(3)Level of soft tissue margine	012
(4)Soft tissues contours	012
(5) Alveolar process	012
soft tissue color and texture	

SCORE: 5/10

WES: White esthetic score



SCORE: 1/10	
(5)Translucency/characterisation	012
(4)Surface Texture	012
(3) Color	012
(2) Outline /Volume	012
((1) looth form	012

PES: Pink esthetic score



L)Mesial Papilla	012
2) Distal Papilla	012
3)Level of soft tissue margine	012
4)Soft tissues contours	012
5) Alveolar process	012
oft tissue color and texture	

SCORE: 9/10

WES: White esthetic score



((1)Tooth form	012
(2) Outline /Volume	012
(3) Color	012
(4)Surface Texture	012
(5)Translucency/characterisation	012
SCORE: 8/10	

Fig 20 : Inital WES/PES Versus Final WES/PES

Initial WES: White esthetic



(1)Tooth form	012
(2) Outline /Volume	<mark>0</mark> 12
(3) Color	012
(4)Surface Texture	012
(5)Translucency/characterisation	012
SCODE: 2 /10	

Final WES: White esthetic



Fig 21 : Initial WES versus Final WES



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Fig 4: Aesthetic checklist (Part 1) Dr. MauroFradeani

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	SMILE LINE								4
		Average	T LUP	TUP	Low		Y	High Gingival Rt Lt	exposure mm mm
	SMILE WIDTH	(NO. OF TEETH VI	SIBLE)						4
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	OCCLUSAL PLANE vs COMMISSURAL LINE/HORIZON								
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	Indicate by tooth number current situation; mark deviation (in mm) from ideal: + (if too long), (if too short)								
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	46 45	44 43	42	41	31 32	33	34	35	36

Fig 4: Aesthetic checklist (Part 2) M.Fradeani



Fig 4: Aesthetic checklist (Part 3) ; M.Fradeani