



G-CEM LinkForce:

Bonding protocol for indirect ceramic restorations

Clinical case by **Dr. Olivier Etienne, Strasbourg**



Dr Olivier ETIENNE is a University Lecturer and Head of the Prosthetics Unit of the Strasbourg Faculty of Dental Medicine. He is Doctor of Odontological Sciences (PhD) and devotes his research to surface characteristics and their interaction with biological tissues. His clinical practice focuses on complex prosthetic rehabilitation and aesthetics, on natural teeth and on implants. Alongside his academic activity, he is working since 20 years in a private practice. Author and co-author of several publications as well as of numerous articles and briefings on the topic of cosmetic and implant dentistry, he actively participates in various continuing education societies and is involved in Post-University Degrees in implantology and smile design.

Indirect bonded ceramic restoration is one of the preferred treatment for the loss of tooth structure. Its average success rate at 10 years is estimated at over 95% for pressable ceramic prosthetic elements and over 90% for milled ones ⁽¹⁾. Among the success factors identified, the ones considered as crucial are the absence of occlusal parafunctions and the quality of the luting ⁽²⁾.

Thanks to the increase use of aesthetic restorations and non-retentive preparations, the adhesive cements became more popular over the years.

Until recently, adhesives coupled with resin cements were divided into two broad categories: etch-and-rinse systems and self-etching systems. The former were acknowledged for their better adhesion, especially to enamel, the latter in their turn being preferred for their lower risk of post-operative sensitivity ⁽³⁾. In order

to combine both advantages, some authors have proposed a method based on selective etching of the enamel prior to the use of a self-etching system ⁽⁴⁾. In addition to its difficulty, this technique poses a risk of concomitant dentin etching which then alters the quality of bonding and can cause sensitivity.



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