

Creating Natural Esthetics with IPS e.max Press MT and the Scoop Technique

Using his Scoop Technique with IPS e.max Press MT from Ivoclar Vivadent, Rafael Santrich, CDT, restores teeth with the natural value, chroma and translucency demanded in the anterior region.



Restorative Challenge

A 34-year-old female patient with six composite restorations on teeth #6-11 complained of a lack of esthetics, irritated tissue due to over-contouring, dissymmetry of her maxillary central incisors and slight rotation of her lateral incisors. The patient requested minimally invasive treatment and a smile with natural esthetics.

Treatment Plan

S C O O P
TECHNIQUE

The case required a highly esthetic material to imitate the translucency of the existing dentition and one that would preserve as much healthy tooth structure as possible. The dental team—including Rafael Santrich, CDT, and Drs. Johan Figueira

and John Monges—chose to fabricate six veneers using IPS e.max Press MT, Ivoclar Vivadent's high-strength lithium disilicate material because it offers optimal integration with the natural dentition. It also allowed Santrich to use his Scoop Technique to reduce opacity and achieve the desired optical effects. This technique incorporates both external staining to create surface detail, and internal staining of the scooped out incisal/palatal aspect to add internal effects.

Step 1



Dr. Figueira removed the old composite restorations, and cleaned and disinfected the areas. He then conservatively prepared the teeth to maintain the enamel and facilitate adhesive bonding and cementation.

Step 2



Dr. Figueira took stump shade information and determined the color for the final restorations: 0M1, 1M1 and 1M2.

Step 3



Dr. Monges made a diagnostic waxup, then duplicated it and used it as a matrix for creating the provisional restorations.

Step 4



Dr. Figueira seated the temporary restorations, giving the patient a preview of her new smile.

Step 5



After pressing with IPS e.max ingot MT BL4, I fit the veneers to the model and removed the excess reaction layer. I then used my Scoop Technique for natural characterization: I refined the contours, texture and form of the restorations and created a small concavity, or scoop, in the palatal/incisal area.

Step 6



I glazed the entire surface of the veneers using Fluo Glaze powder and stain liquid and fired. For the internal stains, I applied Profundo, Ocean, Cream, White and Copper Essence stains to create a more natural appearance. This lingual view shows the effects of the palatal/incisal Scoop Technique.

Step 7



I characterized the outer surface and placed some enamels and opal—T Blue, EO1, EO4, Mamelon Orange-Yellow and Incisal 1—to cover the palatal concavity.

Step 8



I covered the effects with Incisal 1, baked and then hand polished.

Step 9



The completed veneers on the model after finishing reveal the natural texture, translucency, line angles, incisal and cervical embrasures, and halo that were created. Also note the vitality offered by the IPS e.max MT BL4 ingots.

Final Results



The final cemented restorations blend harmoniously in the mouth, with ideal papilla position and enhanced proportions, shape and embrasures.



To showcase the patient and her final restorations, Dr. Monges went all out with makeup and a backdrop to create a unique "after" photo. **LMT**



Specializing in fixed restorations and custom cosmetics, **Rafael Santrich, CDT**, is a native of Cali, Colombia and currently operates VM Lab Technologies, a laboratory in Aventura, FL. He is a graduate of the Press Technology Certification Programs for IPS e.max and IPS Empress at the Las Vegas Institute, and is a Key Opinion Leader for Ivoclar Vivadent Latin America and USA. He is a member of the Colombian Association of Prosthodontics and honorarium member of the Colombia Association of Implantology.