Composite dentistry with the Bioclear technique and the David Clark matrix

Dominic Hassall and Claire Burgess share their experience with a revolutionary composite placement technique and matrix system achieving consistent, long-lasting aesthetics in anterior and posterior composite restorations.

With increasing aesthetic demands from patients, the loss of soft tissue, particularly in the interdental papilla, can be a major concern for patients and can occur due to a number of factors, including post non-surgical periodontal therapy or orthodontic treatment. This clinical situation is often termed ‘black triangle disease’ (Figure 1).

The repair of papilla defects using periodontal techniques is unpredictable and restorative management of black triangle disease with traditional matrix systems and composite techniques has previously proved a challenge for the clinician potentially resulting in:
- Poorly contoured restorations
- Gingival overhangs compromising the periodontal condition
- White lines and poor blending with the natural tooth
- Early staining of the restoration.

These problems have been addressed with the development of the Bioclear composite placement technique.

New techniques
These problems have been addressed with the development of the Bioclear composite placement technique used in conjunction with the David Clark matrix system.

Clinically, the technique involves the use of specifically anatomically shaped matrices shaped for particular teeth (Figures 2, 3 and 4) and heated composite is essentially...
injection moulded. This is combined with a polishing system that results in highly aesthetic blended, anatomically shaped composites, with no overhangs and excellent long-term resistance to staining (Figure 5).

The technique was first described in the UK by Morby, Burgess and Hassall in the International Journal of Advanced Clinical Dentistry, the official journal of the British Academy of Aesthetic Restorative and Implant Dentistry (BAARID). The technique is also invaluable for:

- Diastema closure
- Anterior and posterior composite restorations
- Direct composite veneers
- Direct composite crowns particularly on peg-shaped laterals
- Direct composite onlays.

The system provides a highly cost-effective and durable treatment option for patients.

**This clinical case demonstrates a ‘high-risk papilla’ with a triangular shaped lateral incisor and elongated interdental papilla**

**Clinical case**

This clinical case (shown in Figures 1-5) demonstrates a ‘high-risk papilla’ with a triangular shaped lateral incisor and elongated interdental papilla, where a black triangle developed between the UL1 and UL2 post non-surgical periodontal therapy. The system ensured excellent interproximal emergence with no gingival overhangs, tight contact points and an excellent aesthetic outcome for the patient.

The Dominic Hassall Training Institute is the UK’s only approved international training centre for the Bioclear technique and David Clark matrix system. It features in the institute’s restorative aesthetic, operative and composite courses with extensive hands-on practical sessions allowing you to introduce the techniques and systems into your practice.

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