

Winter 2010

BRIDGING FUNCTION AND ESTHETICS: DOUBLE-TAPER LIGHT-POST ILLUSION X-RO

The gaining popularity of all-ceramics systems has prompted clinicians to reconsider materials that are used as foundations for endodontically treated teeth. Today's highly translucent ceramic materials require the use of an esthetic foundation that will not only complement the ceramic's esthetics, but will also function well under occlusal loads. Further complicating the issue, in endodontic cases that involve removing a post, which statistics reveal to be necessary in about 25% of retreatments, root fracture is a common occurrence if the post is metal.

The introduction of esthetic fiber reinforced composite posts, in the 1990s, challenged conventional treatment modalities. These esthetic posts were more than "just a pretty face". The higher quality products that have evolved clearly offer mechanical, functional and clinical advantages for the dentist and patient which more than compensates for any time required to learn new techniques. Furthermore, fiber posts also overcome the drawbacks that were inherent in their metallic predecessors. They are **less invasive, more easily repairable/re-treatable, non-galvanic/non-corrosive and when properly bonded, are polymerically sealed at the margins to prevent microleakage.**

The DT (Double-Taper) Light-Post design was developed by Drs Sakkal and Boudrias of University of Montreal, reasoning that it was time for a post (made from this composition) that fits root canal treatments the way they are performed, as closely as possible, and with minimal dentin removal, as opposed to the historical adaptation of the root canal to accommodate the parallel or cast post.

The D.T. LIGHT-POST ILLUSION X-RO maintains all of the features and clinical history that the original D.T. LIGHT-POST® offers with the added benefit of **greater radiopacity** and the **color-on-command technology**. When the post is placed intra-orally, the intrinsic color of the post disappears allowing it to blend into the natural dentition. When retreatment or removal is ever required, the post will reappear on command by simply spraying cold water.

The D.T. LIGHT-POST ILLUSION X-RO is available in 4 sizes, with each post being color-coded. The post colors match the drill markings, which helps the clinician distinguish one size from another, before and after placement.

- Anatomical two-taper design
- Esthetic and light-transmitting
- Flexural strength exceeding most metal posts with a Modulus of Elasticity close to dentin
- Radiopaque for visibility on radiographs
- New color-on-command patented* technology
- Free 6-year limited warranty available (U.S. only)

For additional information, please refer to the enclosed literature, or visit www.bisco.com.

HAVE IT YOUR WAY: CUSTOMIZABLE COMMUNICATION

Thanks to modern technological advances, there are numerous means to communicate. **Our goal is to provide you with the information you want, in the format that you prefer.** You and your team are busy, and we realize that the last thing you want is more paperwork, we get it! However, **in order to deliver your information the way you want it, we need a little help.** Enclosed is a brief survey that, when completed and returned, will allow us to create your personalized communication profile. Whether you "just want the "fax" or prefer "the envelope, please" we will deliver!

INNOVATIVE TOOL: SMILE REMINDER

Smile Reminder is a service that allows you to harness the power of communication technologies and put them to work in your practice! It partners **with most practice management software programs, allowing automation of communications such as appointment confirmation, greetings, newsletters, surveys, and much more.**

We have just gone “live”, and used Smile Reminder to contact patients for appointment confirmation via text message and email. We requested recipients of texts to phone us and were amazed that so many responded instantly. Email confirmations include a link that, when clicked, sends us a reply letting us know the message was received and that the patient is planning to attend. If the patient does not call back or reply to the email, we will follow up with a confirmation phone call. We have also opted to send a follow-up message 4 hours prior to the appointment time, letting the patient know we are looking forward to seeing them shortly.

As a service to our colleagues, we plan to use Smile Reminder for meeting notices and reminders, so you may soon experience the magic! **Please be on the lookout for email messages from dt@smilereminder.com (that’s not SPAM, that’s us!).**

AAOS: NEW ANTIBIOTIC PROPHYLACTIC INFORMATION STATEMENT FOR TOTAL KNEE REPLACEMENT

The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (AAOS), like the ADA, periodically revisits and reviews guidelines taking new data into account. Based on literature and information from the ADA, including many years of studies, the AAOS has determined that the evidence-based guidelines from 2003 are no longer accurate. The AAOS has released an Information Statement that says,

“Given the potential adverse outcomes and the cost of treating an infected joint replacement, the AAOS recommends that clinicians consider antibiotic prophylaxis for all total joint replacement patients prior to any invasive procedure that may cause bacteremia.”

Pointedly, the AAOS asserts that the statement is intended to supplement practitioners in their clinical judgment regarding antibiotic prophylaxis for patients with a joint prosthesis, and is not intended as the standard of care. If the practitioner opts for a patient to have antibiotic prophylactic coverage, the AAOS recommends the following:

CAN take oral medications and NOT allergic to penicillin

2 Grams of Amoxicillin, Cephalexin or Cephadrine taken 1 hour prior to the procedure

CANNOT take oral medications and NOT allergic to penicillin

2 Grams of Ampicillin or 1 Gram of Cefazolin administered by injection 1 hour prior to the procedure

ALLERGIC to penicillin

600 milligrams of Clindamycin 1 hour prior to the procedure (orally or by injection)

Dentists may opt to contact the patient’s orthopedic surgeon for additional guidance. The AAOS website, www.aaos.org, contains the Information Statement as well as additional information for both doctors and patients.

It is a true pleasure to work with you. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to share in the care of your patients. We look forward to working together in the New Year.

 and Team