

50 Shades of Pink.

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3MSM Health Care Academy

The case

A young lady presented to our surgery with a “hole” in the cervical region of the FDI #13. She was seeking a functional and cosmetic improvement to the situation. In particular she was worried about food packing and was seeking a restorative option.

The challenge

The tooth was labially and gingivally placed due to the localised crowding. Along with this the carious lesion extended subgingivally. Isolation with rubber dam would be challenging, so retraction cord was used to obtain access to the gingival margin. This allowed meticulous finishing and removal of uncleanable overhangs. The depth and size of the lesion meant that there was a significant colour difference between the overall tooth colour and the underlying dentine. A typical single shade composite restorative would likely have noticeable difference in colour from the remaining tooth.

The outcome

The outcome was very well received with an almost imperceptible difference in colour from the restoration and the remaining tooth structure. The pink opaquer was able to mask the dentine and pulp capping material effectively.



Figure 1: Presenting condition: Dental caries at the cervical region. Patient was educated on reasons for dental caries.



Figure 2: Caries excavation and retraction cord placement. Deep dentine close to pulp was indirectly capped with a RMGIC - Fuji VII Pink. Size 000 retraction cord to have access to the subgingival margin and control gingival crevicular fluid.



Figure 3: A layer of 3M Filtek Universal Pink Opaque (PO) resin was placed to mask the dentine & pink RMGIC pulp capping material.



Figure 4: Finished restoration with Filtek Supreme XTE (A4 Dentine and A3 Enamel) after margins were carefully trimmed with a multi-fluted tungsten carbide bur (while retraction cord in place), 3M Soflex Discs and EVE Diapol Twist composite polishers.



Figure 5: Before and after images.

Case summary

Filtek Universal Restorative Pink Opaquer provides optimal aesthetics with a unique ability to mask dark dentine or unsightly liners. Topped with Filtek Supreme XTE this patient's outcome offers superior aesthetics compared with a typical single shade composite restoration.



Dr Sravan Chunduru, Specialist Prosthodontist

Sravan qualified as a dentist in Adelaide, Australia and completed a specialisation in prosthodontics at the University of Sydney to expand his knowledge and experience in advanced restorative treatment of worn, failing or missing teeth. He has practiced in Sydney for many years in public hospital, private and university settings.

Sravan now works at the Adelaide Dental Hospital as a consulting specialist prosthodontist and at his own private practice. He was also involved in prosthodontic teaching at the University of Sydney and now at the University of Adelaide.

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