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The PDA Report

Your Local Source For Restorative Dentistry

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Our First Issue!

Welcome to the PDA Report! It is officially the age of information and technology, and there is a lot of both in restorative dentistry. We are a dental laboratory on the cutting edge of technology, materials, and processes; and we have a lot of information to share with our partners in dentistry, you!

We began sharing information that we found pertinent to restorative dentistry by posting on our blog and our Facebook page. Wanting to reach more Dentists in the area, our next step was to design and distribute a newsletter. Thus, the PDA Report came to fruition.

The Newsletter:

The PDA Report is designed to be an avenue of information that

keeps you up to date on the happenings of restorative dentistry in our area. We will focus on what is going on in our laboratory and what we feel is most important to our clients including; material reviews, new technologies, featured clinical cases, Doctor interviews, and everything in between.

For example; In this issue you will see how our clients are beating the increasing cost of gold, and how we can save you money on custom implant abutments and restorations.

Blog and Facebook:

Our blog and Facebook page is a whole other animal when it comes to sharing information. There we can link to articles, videos, product reviews, and

more that we cannot fit, or legally put into the Newsletter. We are constantly scouring dental journals and websites for stuff we think can benefit you!

The blog and Facebook page is a great way to stay in touch with the PDA Report in between issues.

On page 4 (the back page) of this issue you can learn how to follow us online on our Blog and through Facebook.

Communication:

We aren't experts, but we think we know a lot. If you have any input or want to comment please feel free to call us or email us.

Thanks for reading the PDA Report!

The Team At Precision Dental Arts, Inc.

Buyer Beware: Off Brand Restorative Materials

Times are tough... everywhere. We are all trying to cut costs in business and at home, and the dental industry is no different. The costs being cut can have an affect on the quality of restorations that dental labs are offering their clients.

With the influx of new technology and materials in our industry, there have been many new manufacturers popping their heads up and flooding our emails and mail boxes with money saving materials and processes.

As a dental lab, our job is to not only best serve the dentist, but best serve the patient. We could easily save \$5-\$10 per restoration by using an off brand zirconia that is not manufactured by one of the major brands. But we decided to stick with materials from the major manufacturers in our industry to ensure that our restorations are manufactured and produced with strict quality standards. Giving you and your patients the highest

quality restorations we can.

Dentists! Do your due diligence in understanding what is going into your dental restorations. Ask your lab what kind of materials they use and where they get them from, or who they are outsourcing your lava or zirconia copings to. If you don't ask, they won't tell you.

In a recent "Ask Dr. Christiansen" Article that addresses high strength all-ceramic restorations he states that "not all zirconia is zirconia."⁽¹⁾ And he also recommends using zirconia from the major manufacturers to ensure refined and homogenous zirconia frameworks. It is important for Dentists and Dental Labs to communicate and ensure that proper materials and processes are being used to fabricate your restorations.

At Precision Dental Arts we follow a simple rule with our clients, "If we wouldn't put it on our mouth, we wouldn't put it in the patients mouth." **PDA**

(1) Christensen DDS, MSD, PHD, G. (2011, March). Ask Dr. Christiansen. *Dental Economics*



Gold prices have more than doubled since 2006 and show no signs of slowing down.

“Not only are they (all-ceramics) becoming more cost effective with the increasing cost of alloy... they simply look better.”

Increasing Alloy Prices Got You Down?

Gas prices are going up! Mortgage rates are on their way back up! Everything is going up! And if you are prescribing a lot of metal based

restorations, your dental lab bill is going up too. When are we going to catch a break?

Well, we definitely don't have a solution for alternative fuel for your SUV, but we do have some solutions for that dental lab bill!

The cost of Gold is at an all-time high and it shows no signs of coming back down. Thus, the majority of our clients have started to trend away from prescribing metal based restorations and are instead prescribing zirconia based crowns and bridges and lithium disilicate glass (e.max) restorations that we can fabricate in our laboratory. Not only are they becoming more cost effective with the increasing cost of alloy in PFMs and full gold restorations, they simply look better in the mouth.

“Looking great” and “less expensive” are great highlights, but how do they perform in the mouth? And how long should I expect them to last? Well, let's take a look at two of our most popular all-ceramic restorations and our success with each.

Zirconia Based:

Zirconia based crowns and bridges are similar in concept to a PFM. They consist of a substructure made of high strength zirconia which is

layered with a highly esthetic porcelain.

In the early years of zirconia there was some concern and problems with chipping of the porcelain that was fused to the zirconia. But with advancements in technology and a better understanding of the material, these problems have quickly gone away. Advancements in CAD/CAM technology has allowed us to design and mill anatomically correct zirconia frameworks for crowns and bridges.

Our frameworks are designed to leave exactly 1.2 millimeters of space for porcelain build up uniformly over the entire restoration. This offers adequate room for advanced esthetics, while supporting the weaker porcelain in high risk areas of the crown or bridge (i.e. marginal ridges and cusp tips).

Since employing this technique into our laboratory process, our success rate for this material is almost incalculable at a 99.98%.

IPS e.max, Ivoclar Vivadent:

Another material that is gaining steam is IPS e.max from Ivoclar Vivadent. E.max is a lithium disilicate glass ceramic that is high strength and highly esthetic. It is a monolithic material, meaning it is one uniform strength through out and does not require layering of porcelain to achieve a highly esthetic result. As a laboratory that has been striving for the ideal all-ceramic restoration, we are pleased to announce that we have found it!

We are confident in the 360 MPa of flexural strength to encourage our clients to prescribe these crowns for the posterior. And we have the ability to cut back the incisal edge on anterior restorations and add incisal porcelain to enhance the esthetics on more esthetically advanced cases. IPS e.max is truly the cross-trainer of all-ceramic materials.

We started fabricating e.max crowns, veneers, and onlays over 3 years ago and have had incredible results with a documented success rate of over 99.9%. We do recommend cementing e.max restorations with bonded resin cement.

Full-Contour Zirconia:

A very hot item that is often being discussed is full-contour zirconia crowns and bridges. This is a very new technique and shows much promise, but the clinical success has not been documented for a significant period of time. Zirconia is not as esthetically pleasing as an e.max restoration but it does boast incredible strength and is an ideal alternative when a high strength material is suitable. We see this material as a tooth colored option for traditional full gold restorations.

We hope to have more information on full-contour zirconia restorations soon as we venture further with this material in clinical cases.

There is plenty of more information available about these materials on our blog and Facebook page, or feel free to contact us. **PDA**

What's New at Precision Dental Arts, Inc.

Custom Zirconia Implant Abutments Designed and Milled In-House

It is proven that new technology brings more new technology, which in turn, brings more new technology. That is exactly what happened to our laboratory when we decided to invest in an in-house milling system. The machine we used solely for milling zirconia frameworks 6 years ago has truly turned into a milling power house. The list of what we can mill and how we can mill it continues to grow and expand into areas that can really benefit our clients. The latest technological advancement comes in the form of customized in-house zirconia abutments.

Sirona, the manufacturer of our InLab MCXL milling system has teamed up with the most popular implant companies to offer us the ability to fabricate these in-house custom ceramic abutments.

The truth about implants for a laboratory is that they can get confusing with the multiple implant systems available and they can get pretty

expensive very quickly. In order to fabricate a custom ceramic abutment in the past we would have to; design a wax coping, send it to the appropriate authorized laboratory, then they would scan the wax up and send it to that implant manufacturer, who would then mill out the ceramic abutment and return it to the laboratory, and then we can start to produce the crown to go over it... exhausted yet? We are.

Now we are able to take the dentists implant model and scan it into our CAD/CAM system. From there we can design the custom zirconia abutment with the appropriate emergence profile and margin depth. At the same time, we are designing the final restoration that fits perfectly over the custom abutment, or we can design a screw retained implant, your preference!

This gives us full control over the entire production process while shortening that process as well. In turn the dentist can get an implant at a very competitive rate and with a quicker turn around time.



All processes and materials are approved by Sirona, the certain implant manufacturer, and the FDA. For more information about these custom ceramic

implant abutments be sure to visit our blog or Facebook page, and don't hesitate to contact us.

There are more implant systems coming available soon. If you don't see the implant system you prefer it is most likely in the process for FDA approval and will be available shortly.

PDA

Implant Systems Currently Available

- Nobel Biocare
Replace
Branemark
- Straumann
Tissue Level
- Astra Tech
OsseoSpeed
- Friadent
Frialit/Xive
- Biomet 3i
Ex. Hex
- Zimmer
Tapered Screw Vent

Each issue we have a new special offer just for you!

The Deal! IPS e.max Crowns \$159

\$159 for posterior restorations that are stained and glazed. For more esthetically advanced anterior cases that require cutback and incisal porcelain the price increases to \$215. \$159 price expires June 1, 2011. Original price \$185.

To get started call or email Precision Dental Arts, Inc. and request your starter kit that includes lab slips, boxes, and laboratory and material information.

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THE PDA REPORT

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- ***Buyer Beware! Off brand restorative materials***
- ***Custom Zirconia Implant Abutments***
- ***And More!!!***

Follow The PDA Report Online

This newsletter is just a brief glimpse into the information we are able to share with current and potential clients. Through our blog and Facebook page we have the ability to link to important articles, share instructional and promotional videos, and share our thoughts on a new or popular subject at any time of any day. Below you will find detailed information on how to follow us through both.

Our Blog: Adventures in Digital Dentistry

<http://blog.precisiondentalarts-online.com>

This is where all the information we gather or come across goes. Here you can find:

- Lab processes and materials that we use
- Important articles from dental journals
- Videos, pictures, and announcements
- Upcoming events in the area

To stay in touch you can subscribe so you get an email notification when we post something in our blog. You can also read and react by leaving comments! It is really simple to use and follow.

Follow us on Facebook.

If you have a Facebook account it is easy to follow us. Just go to **www.facebook.com/precisiondentalarts** and "like" us. We use Facebook simply as another way for you to follow our blog, every thing we post on our blog is also posted and announced through our Facebook page as well.

Contact us directly

Always feel free to give us a call or send us an email.

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