

## Restoring function in balanced oral environments

### Dr Clarence Tam

An ambulatory and active 76-year-old patient presented for treatment: medical history comprising osteoporosis, pre-diabetic status, hypertension, and fibromyalgia/chronic pain syndrome. Her medications include: calcium supplements, a bisphosphonate (Fosamax), a tricyclic antidepressant (amitryptaline) used to treat her chronic pain syndrome, cholecalciferol to supplement Vitamin D intake, and a calcium channel blocker (amlodipine besylate) to fight hypertension. She takes paracetamol as needed for pain.

The patient is partially-dentate and functioning well and satisfactorily with a chrome cobalt partial denture. Her chief concern revolves around the closure of the open contact between teeth 34 and 35 simultaneously

treating caries diagnosed on 34D and marginal failure on the MO composite restoration. The patient has limited finances and does not wish to pursue fixed implant restorations due to her current comfortable function but does report xerostomia as a result of the anticholinergic effect of her amitryptaline intake. As such, she has been placed on a preventative oral care regime featuring both GC Dry Mouth Gel as well as GC Tooth Mousse Plus® used morning and evening.

All in all, this direct restoration represents what is possible with modern bonded dentistry - the simultaneous achievement of conservative of tooth structure whilst improving esthetics in the same breath.



1. Completed Class II preparation and sectional matrix assembly in place on 34DO.



2. Marginal ridge layered to full anatomic height using Essentia LE.



3. Dentin mass composed of Essentia DD placed and sculpted.



4. Essentia Modifier RBM was used in the dentin fissures prior to layering of enamel. This approach allows the color to subtly show through, the "lingerie effect" (Clarence Tam, 2017).



5. Mid-Mesial lobe layered using Essentia LE.



6. Final post-operative view showing integration with occlusion, closure of open contact and compatibility of contours and restoration with existing chrome cobalt partial denture.