

Aurum's Cristal® Veneers – A Pictorial Essay



Dr. Louis Malcmacher

The following is a pictorial essay regarding a patient who has recently had a case involving Aurum's Cristal® Veneers. This is an interesting case on a number of levels. The patient's history is of a 42 year old female who wanted a smile makeover approximately two years ago. Figure 1 shows her pre-operative smile. The patient presented with Class 1 occlusion and with a midline discrepancy. She wanted a more even appearance to her teeth and a whiter colour. The midline discrepancy is of no consequence to her esthetically. Her periodontium is healthy and she also requested a minimally invasive approach. Teeth numbers 8 and 9 are full ceramic crowns, which are not the same shade as her natural teeth. Although the shade discrepancy is minor, this did concern her. She had read about a popular minimally invasive veneer and was referred to a dentist for those veneers.

Figure 2 shows this same patient after her minimally invasive veneer treatment. She presented in our office and expressed her disappointment with these veneers for a few reasons. She felt that the teeth had no character, were "dead looking" and not lifelike at all, and that the cuspids especially were too bulky, both in their appearance and in the feel on the inside of her cheeks. This picture is representative of the biggest challenges and complaints that many dentists have about no prep/minimal prep veneers – that they are too opaque and too bulky. At this point, the patient was not yet interested in further treatment to correct her smile, even though she was unhappy with the results.

We see in Figure 3 this same patient a few months later. She is still unhappy with the appearance of the veneers, but now has a much greater concern with the fractures that have occurred with these veneers. Figure 4 shows a retracted close up view of her case. The incisal 1/3 of the veneer has broken on tooth number 5, the veneer on tooth number 7 has completely come off and a temporary veneer was hastily placed, and the



Figure 1.



Figure 2.

all porcelain crown on tooth number 8 has fractured at the gingival third. This is a combination of material and bonding failures as well as poor management of the case from the clinical and laboratory aspects. At this point, obviously, the patient is in need of retreatment and we chose to use Aurum Ceramic/Classic's Cristal Veneers for this case.

Figure 5 shows the removal of all the veneer and composite materials as well as the two all porcelain crowns on teeth

numbers 8 and 9. Here is where this case really presents a challenge and why working with a talented esthetic ceramic laboratory really starts to pay off. You can imagine that the all porcelain crowns will be at least 3 to 4 mm thick circumferentially while some of the Cristal veneers may range anywhere from .3 mm thin in some areas to 1 mm thick in other areas, even on the same tooth. When working with a minimally invasive approach, the ceramist has to have an excellent understanding of the ceramic they are using in order to provide the dental clinician with a finished case where the shades of all the different restorations will all match together. This is especially true when doing no preparation/minimal preparation veneers.

The right and left side views in Figures 6 and 7 show that aside from the two central incisors, all of the other preparations are minimally prepared in enamel, which will certainly pay off in the final strength of this veneer case when the right materials are used.

Figure 8 shows the completed case after insertion. The Aurum's Cristal Veneers and crowns are excellent in

terms of size and shape and have completely eliminated the bulkiness that the patient previously complained about. This is an important point – the biggest complaint by dentists and patients alike have been that no preparation and minimal preparation veneers are too bulky, too opaque and lack the texture or definition which lends itself to a more realistic result. Aurum Ceramic/Classic is known as a highly esthetic dental

laboratory and they are now bringing their esthetic experience into the minimally invasive veneer market.

Figure 9 shows a close up of teeth numbers 7 through 10 and you can see the excellent adaptation, texture, and colour match that was achieved. I, as the clinician, used the exact same shade of cement (Variolink Veneer) on every restoration in this case. Aurum Ceramic did an incredible job in working with

the Cristal Veneer Porcelain to achieve this match, which makes my job seating these veneers incredibly easy.

Figure 10 is a lifestyle photograph of the patient. Comparing this to the post-operative picture of the veneers she had previously, these veneers are very life-like, not at all bulky, have definition and give this patient a great looking, natural smile.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.



Figure 6.



Figure 7.



Figure 8.

Comparing this to the post-operative picture of the veneers she had previously, these veneers are very lifelike, not at all bulky, have definition and give this patient a great looking, natural smile.



Figure 9.



Figure 10.

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You can also see his lecture schedule at www.commonssensedentistry.com where you can find information about his botulinum toxin and dermal filler training, building the best dental team ever, big case acceptance success! and sign up for his affordable monthly consulting programs, teleconferences, audio cd's and free monthly e-newsletter.