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West Michigan District Dental Society

THE MODERN RESTORATIVE PRACTICE

Presented by Dr. Michael DiTolla, DDS, FAGD | March 2, 2012 | Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park

All-ceramic restorations continue to make inroads into the overall restorative market at the rate of about 1-2 percent each year. In the year 2000, approximately 20% of restorations were all-ceramic; by 2006, it had risen to 31% of restorations and it continues to rise as we speak. Metal-free restorative options include composites, pressed ceramics, and cementable all-ceramic products. Each of these metal-free options has a place in current esthetic restorative dentistry, and I will share what I think are the proper indications for each of these materials. We certainly have seen failures in the lab when dentists attempt to push these materials beyond their indications. There are still several clinical situations that call exclusively for the use of PFM restorations, but that list of situations is shrinking.

After completing this program, the dental professional should be able to:

1. Recognize the various treatment modalities available to the modern practitioner to help them restore the mouth in an esthetic manner.
2. Be familiar with the use of more conservative all-ceramic restorations such as no-prep and minimal prep porcelain veneers.
3. Be familiar with zirconia oxide and the pros and cons of using this structural ceramic material as a crown and bridge substructure.
4. Be familiar with the new class of cementable all-ceramic restorations, lithium disilicate, and understand how the CAD/CAM milling process can improve consistency and quality.

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