



C.A.D./C.A.M. Porcelain Restorations: CEREC

C.A.D. – Computer Aided Design

C.A.M. – Computer Aided Manufacturing

A guide to CEREC

One of the main factors that may hold people back from undergoing cosmetic dentistry - which could see their smile completely transformed - is the drawn out process of what could be a painful procedure and the subsequent appointments that may be required to ensure the course of action is working effectively.

Those individuals with on-the-go lifestyles may find themselves wishing there was a simple solution that could see them spend as little time as possible in the dentist's chair before heading back to work with an improved smile.

Luckily, the emergence of CEREC technology - created by Sirona Dental Systems Germany. Dental professionals across the globe can now replace teeth within a short period of time.



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What is CEREC?

Using this revolutionary system, dentists can design, manufacture and install a new veneer, inlay, onlay or crown in a short timescale, which would previously take at least two weeks.

The system - which is one of the most advanced in the world of medicine - has been used to complete more than 16 million restorations across the globe. It allows the practitioner to prepare perfectly-fitted ceramic restorations with significant savings in both time and laboratory costs.

How does the technology work?

Similarly to the preparation of a tooth before a crown or veneer is installed, a dental professional will take an impression with the traditionally utilised dental putty. This is then digitally scanned to produce a computerised 3D model, which is used as a guide to create the new restoration.

When the practitioner is satisfied with the appearance, the information is transmitted to a specially-designed milling machine, which creates the pearly whites from a high-quality ceramic block. This process usually takes between six minutes and half an hour, depending on the technology used and the complexity of the issue.

Available in a wide variety of colours and shapes, the ceramic blocks are selected to match the surrounding teeth as perfectly as possible - which is ideal for those individuals who may be concerned about their new restorations/teeth looking natural.

When the crown or veneer has been milled, it can then be characterised and stained to match the colour of the existing teeth before it is polished and glazed in a furnace. Following this process, the brand new restoration is cemented into place on top of the already-prepared tooth.



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What types of material are used?

The materials used during a CEREC tooth restoration are of the finest quality compared with those utilised in similar procedures several years ago - where dentists were often limited to the options they could select when carrying out this type of procedure.

During this process, the practitioner will make use of strong, tooth-coloured ceramic materials to create the most attractive smiles and restore the teeth to form and function.

Furthermore, the procedure allows the dental professionals to retain more tooth structure as the manufactured restorations are bonded onto the remaining tooth.

What are the benefits of this course of action?

The advantages of using CEREC treatment over different options within the cosmetic dentistry industry are primarily the timing and efficiency, making the procedure extremely popular among busy individuals who may not have the spare hours in the day to undergo alternative treatments.

Other benefits include:

The fact that everything is carried out in such a short timeframe also makes it perfect for those with on-the-go lifestyles, allowing them to take a less time out of their busy schedule as opposed to several days as with traditional methods.

Using previous methods, a crown or veneer is manufactured in an offsite location and can take longer to produce, but CEREC allows the entire process to be completed by an in-house dentist.



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Lastly, the drawn out timescale with traditional dental techniques often means patients are required to wear temporary fixtures for an extended period while the permanent solution is being produced.

Finding out more is easy...

To find out more, or to book in for a consultation, simply give us a call on the number below or email us:



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