

ABOUT THE COVER



by

Robert G. Ritter, DMD and Nelson A. Rego, CDT, AAACD

Moriah was never very happy with her small teeth and spaces, which made her self-conscious. The patient presented with small teeth and an excessive amount of gingival display. A complete examination, periodontal examination, full-mouth x-rays, and Panorex were completed. She wanted longer teeth, not too much whiter but with better proportions. We discussed with the patient the need for her to see our periodontist and have an examination to determine if osseous recontouring could and should be performed.

After exploring all the options, Moriah agreed to the crown/osseous treatment plan. Teeth #6-12 had osseous, gingival recontouring surgery. Typical healing times range from a minimum of three to four months. However, we allowed her six months to heal to ensure that her gingival tissue health was optimal. It was now time to proceed with our restorative treatment plan.

One of the treatment objectives was to be as noninvasive as possible with restorations that had 100% enamel retention. Because her teeth were in the proper alignment with healthy gingival tissues that were at the correct gingival heights and zeniths, it was determined that we could do minimal-preparation restorations. The records were gathered and sent to the laboratory for an ideal wax-up. The patient began to whiten her teeth in the interim.

The patient's teeth were prepared for IPS e.max thin veneers, #4-13 (Ivoclar Vivadent; Amherst, NY). The preparations were completed; the provisionals were fabricated from the ideal wax-up out of Luxatemp shade B1 (Zenith/DMG; Englewood, NJ). The veneers were fabricated out of MO-O ingots, cut back and layered. The patient wore the temporaries for a week, an impression was taken of the approved provisionals, and sent to the laboratory to replicate the form and function. The final veneers were seated with Variolink veneer shade 0 (Ivoclar Vivadent).

Moriah was extremely happy with the final results, which gave her the dazzling smile she always wanted.

For more on this patient's story, please turn to page 111.

Dentistry and clinical photography by Robert G. Ritter, DMD (Jupiter, FL). Periodontal osseous/gingival recontouring by Karina Leal, DMD (West Palm Beach, FL). Ceramic artistry by Nelson A. Rego, CDT, AAACD (Santa Fe Springs, CA). Cover photography by Sara Kauss, Sara Kauss Photography (Tequesta, FL).



Preoperative.



Postoperative.



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