Contemporary Dental Materials:
How to incorporate new dental materials into your practice

Dr. Nathaniel Lawson

New ceramic materials have changed the way we practice dentistry by offering a strong, aesthetic and affordable restorative option for our patients. But ceramic materials do not handle the same as metal-based restorations and improper selection or handling can lead to premature failure. The morning session of this course will teach you how to select and handle different types of ceramic materials that are currently used in dentistry that will be much less confusing than typical marketing rhetoric. We will review the best clinical practices based on research studies conducted at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry and provide pearls for you to take back to the office.

The afternoon session we will cover advances in restorative materials. Due to our patients esthetic desires and the advantages of minimal tooth preparations, direct bonded restorations are a mainstay of most dental practices. Although advances in materials have improved the outcome of composite restorations, these restorations can still be accompanied by post-op sensitivity, marginal breakdown and secondary caries. This course aims to review the techniques for optimal bonding based on evidence as well as highlight the uses of new bonding systems that can simplify your technique while maintaining performance. We will also look at the clinical applications for bulk fill composites and bioactive.

Course Objectives:
1. Select material for anterior and posterior ceramic restorations
2. Learn the best methods to design, polish, bond to and cut off ceramic restorations
3. Select a cement for different clinical scenarios
4. Learn bonding techniques to minimize sensitivity and prolong the life of your direct bonded restorations
5. Learn the evidence for new “bioactive” materials
6. Learn how to work with bulk-fill composites

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