

BIOACTIVE MATERIALS

New class of esthetic, bioactive restorative dental materials offers alternative to traditional composite restoratives.

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HYGIENE TRIBUNE

PROTECTING DIGITAL TOOLS

A checklist of dos and don'ts for intraoral sensor care and maintenance.

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IMPLANT TRIBUNE

CERTIFIED BY ACADEMY OF OSSEOINTEGRATION

Dr. Amerian Sones explains AO's newly launched certification program.

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Associations want chief dental officer role to have teeth

The Academy of General Dentistry (AGD), the American Association for Dental Research (AADR), the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) and the Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) in April urged U.S. legislators to restore the position of chief dental officer with executive-level authority and resources to oversee the dental programs and oral health initiatives of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Leaders from the four organizations convened on Capitol Hill to advocate that good oral health is an essential public health need, and they argued that the HRSA's current staffing structure fails to adequately support individuals across the country.

"HRSA needs the strong voice of a dentist to inform and lead our country's oral health agenda," said AGD President W. Mark Donald, DDS, MAGD. "Without this leader, the health of more than 3 million people served through HRSA programs, including many of the most vulnerable and underserved, is being left at risk, managed by administrators without formal training in oral health and dentistry. A dentist in the chief dental officer role would be able to draw from his or her

practice expertise and clinical knowledge to best identify our country's oral health challenges, develop solutions in response and ensure that each dollar spent is done so in a way that will result in better oral health outcomes."

The chief dental officer position was established in 2008; however, the role has never been granted a separate budget or line-item authority as has been done with similar appointments in agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Indian Health Services or the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research.

Donald was joined by SCDA Vice President Jeffrey Hicks, DDS; AAPHD Executive Director Julie Frantsve-Hawley, RDH, PhD; and AADR Director of Governmental Affairs Carolyn Mullen.

The AGD (www.agd.org) is a professional association of 40,000 general dentists dedicated to providing quality dental care and oral health education to the public. Founded in 1952, the AGD is the second-largest dental association in the U.S., and it is the only association that exclusively serves the needs and represents the interests of general dentists.

(Source: AGD)

ADHA 93rd Annual Session, June 8–14, Pittsburgh



Aerial view of Pittsburgh, which in its bicentennial year is hosting the American Dental Hygienists' Association Center for Lifelong Learning at the 93rd Annual Session. Photo/Dave DiCello, Provided by VisitPittsburgh

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AGD 2016 includes exhibit-hall-based education

'Revolutionary changes in dentistry' coming to Boston

Reflecting its host location, the theme of this year's Academy of General Dentistry annual meeting is "Revolutionary changes in dentistry." AGD 2016 will be from Thursday, July 14, through Sunday, July 17, in Boston at the Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center and Sheraton Boston Hotel.

The meeting features four days of continuing education for dentists and dental team members, highlighted by clinical and practice management lectures, hands-on courses and live-patient demonstrations.

In the exhibit hall, dental professionals, students and service providers will have numerous ways to connect at daily net-

working events and demonstrations of new dental products and services.

Educational opportunities in the exhibit hall include the "Transitions Program Learning Labs," designed to assist attendees in transitioning through various career stages, whether you just graduated or you're preparing to open your own practice. Learning Labs also will cover a range of topics such as marketing, CAD/CAM and dental photography — of benefit to the entire dental team. Early sign-up early is encouraged because these complimentary courses tend to sell out quickly.

Online registration ends at 5 p.m. CDT, June 30. Onsite registration opens at 3 p.m., July 13. Learn more and register at www.agd2016.org.

(Source: AGD)



AGD 2016 has everything dental professionals need to be informed, inspired and entertained, all packed into four days in Boston, July 14–17. Photo/Cpenler, www.dreamstime.com

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Bioactive materials: A new approach to dental care

By Larry Clark, FIADFE, CAED, and
Fredrick M. Berk, BA, FIADFE,
Pulpdent Corp.

Today's new and innovative technologies hold a great potential to improve oral health and advance dental care. One of those budding technologies is evident in the ACTIVA BioACTIVE product range (Pulpdent, USA). As part of a new class of esthetic, bioactive restorative dental materials, it offers an alternative to traditional composite restoratives and delivers direct benefits to dentists and patients.

Bioactive materials are "smart," moisture-friendly and dynamic. By responding to ambient conditions in the mouth, they play an active role in the oral environment¹ and stimulate formation of a layer of protective, apatite-like crystal deposits at the material-tooth interface² that forms a natural bond between the material and living tissue.³ This natural protective remineralization process knits the restoration and the tooth together. A crystallized connective layer penetrates and fills micro-gaps, seals margins, guards against recurrent caries and prevents the staining associated with microleakage and failure.

ACTIVA BioACTIVE materials are the first dental restoratives with a bioactive resin matrix, shock-absorbing resin component and reactive glass fillers designed to mimic the physical and chemical properties of natural teeth. ACTIVA responds to pH cycles in the mouth with release and recharge of calcium, phosphate and fluoride.

ACTIVA BioACTIVE products resist fracture and chipping at the margins⁴⁻⁶ while maintaining the high compressive and tensile strength⁷ and wear resistance^{8,9} required of an esthetic restorative resin. It can be used for all patients and contains no Bisphenol A, no Bis-GMA and no BPA derivatives.

Over a period of five to seven years, failure may become visible at the marginal interface between the cement or restorative material and the tooth. Some materials are soluble and wash out at the margins, others are brittle and chip, and still others do not adapt intimately to tooth structure and form gaps, allowing microleakage to undermine the integrity of the restoration. These problems are compounded by constant acid attacks, the solubility and degradation of bonding

agents and the incompatibility of the materials with the soft tissues, all leading to a proliferation of restoration failure¹⁰⁻¹⁴ (Figs. 1, 2).

ACTIVA BioACTIVE-RESTORATIVE solves the problem of microleakage as the primary cause of restoration failure.¹⁵⁻¹⁷ As flowable/injectable materials, they easily adapt to irregular tooth surfaces and exhibit wear resistance comparable to traditional composites.

The Mixpac™ Colibri mixing tip (Sulzer Mixpac, Switzerland) mixes the base and catalyst of the two-component material, prevents air bubbles with the 360-degree fully turnable and bendable needle and allows for precise placement of material, even in post holes and hard-to-reach areas. Placing the Mixpac Colibri mixing tip along the wall at the floor of the cavity, allowing the restorative material to flow ahead of the needle, and keeping it submerged in the material at all times ensures intimate adaptation with tooth structure and a gap-free restoration (Fig. 3).

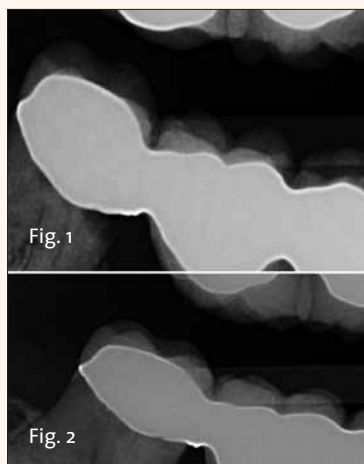
ACTIVA BioACTIVE-CEMENT stimulates continuous formation of calcium and phosphate crystals that strengthen the surrounding dentition and ensure marginal integrity (Fig. 4). This crystalline seal is virtually insoluble and friendly to surrounding tissues. These unique chemical and physical properties provide a durable, long-lasting seal for crown and bridge placements fabricated with both traditional and newer materials.

ACTIVA BioACTIVE-CEMENT has self-etching, self-adhesive properties and is both light-curing and self-curing. Its syringe delivery system in combination with the Mixpac Colibri mixing tip provides an easy and simplified cementation procedure.

After more than three years of clinical use and more than 25 published studies, ACTIVA BioACTIVE materials have been validated and proven successful. A one-year Clinical Performance Report from The Dental Advisor awarded ACTIVA its highest 5-plus rating (+++++) and a 98 percent approval rating.²⁰

A 36-month recall visit of an early ACTIVA placement looked like newly placed. This provides further clinical proof of the material's ability to penetrate and integrate with tooth structure and form a positive seal against microleakage.

A list of references is available from the publisher on request.



Figs. 1, 2: Top radiograph shows recurrent caries and wash out of cement on three-unit bridge. Bottom shows repair with ACTIVA BioACTIVE-RESTORATIVE. Photos/Dr. Robert Lowe, Provided by Sulzer Mixpac

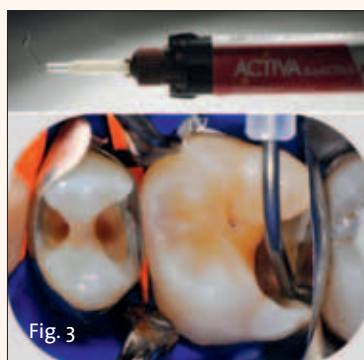


Fig. 3: Top, Colibri metal cannula swivels and easily bends to the desired shape for precise placement of materials and, bottom, easy access to cavity floors with the Colibri mix tip. Materials achieve intimate adaptation with tooth structure, creating a gap-free restoration. Photos/ Provided by Sulzer Mixpac

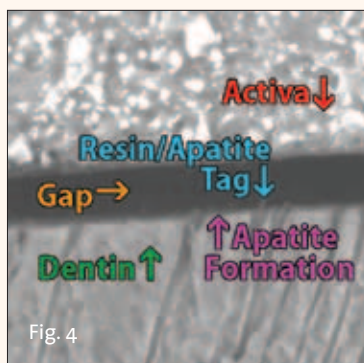


Fig. 4: Scanning electron microscopy image shows apatite formation and integration of the resin tags containing apatite into the dentinal tubules. The virtually insoluble crystalline seal is friendly to surrounding tissues, creating a durable, long-lasting seal for crown and bridge placements whether fabricated of traditional or newer materials.

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For a dry field: Sugi Butterfly

By Kettenbach Staff

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Kettenbach recently launched Sugi Butterfly, a non-sterile, unique cotton fiber and cellulose barrier that is available in two sizes: small and large.

According to the company, it is ideal for absorbing oral fluids up to 20 times its weight, while providing tissue isolation and patient comfort. As a lint-free and shred-resistant barrier, it will not inadvertently contaminate restorative procedures, according to the company.

The company describes the barrier as being easily placed and easily removed, so the work field can be maintained comfortably for the patient while providing for an optimum operating area.

About Kettenbach

Kettenbach, based in Huntington Beach, Calif., is the exclusive U.S. distributor for Kettenbach GmbH & Co. KG (Eschenburg, Germany).

Founded by August Kettenbach in 1944, Kettenbach GmbH was created for the development and marketing of medical and dental products. Today, the company is one of the leading international producers of dental impression materials and is also known in other surgical areas of medicine. The company's brands include Panasil VPS Impression Material, Identium VSXE Impression Material, Futar Bite Material, Silginat Alternative Alginate, Visalys Temp Material, Mucopren Resilient Liner and Visalys Veneers.

For more information you can call (877) 532-2123 or visit www.kettenbachusa.com.



Sugi Butterfly, in large or small, is a non-sterile, unique cotton fiber and cellulose barrier. Photo/Provided by Kettenbach

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Admira Fusion x-tra has a 4 mm depth-of-cure for fast, long-lasting posterior restorations and is available in one universal shade. Its nano-particulate enhances its ability to adapt and blend to surrounding tooth structure. Photo/Provided by VOVO

Admira Fusion x-tra: All ceramic-based direct bulk-fill restorative

Biocompatible Nano-ORMOCER (ORganically MODified CERamic)

By VOVO Staff

VOVO has introduced Admira® Fusion x-tra, describing it as “the world’s first all ceramic-based direct bulk-fill restorative material.”

After almost two decades of intensive research and development, VOVO has created the first ever nano-ORMOCER® through the innovative fusion of VOVO’s proven nano-hybrid and ORMOCER (ORganically MODified CERamic) technologies.

Admira Fusion x-tra’s chemistry base is formed by silicon oxide, making up both the glass fillers as well as the ceramic resin matrix, a first of its kind.

This unique “pure silicate technology” offers several advantages, including up to 50 percent lower polymerization shrinkage (1.25 percent by volume) than today’s conventional composites, as well as up to 50 percent lower shrinkage stress. These are two key physical prop-

erties in bulk-fill restoratives.

Admira Fusion x-tra has a 4 mm depth-of-cure for fast, long-lasting posterior restorations and is available in one universal shade. Admira Fusion’s nano-particulate amplifies its chameleon effect, enhancing its ability to adapt and blend to surrounding tooth structure compared to conventional composites, according to the company.

The ORMOCER matrix used within Admira Fusion x-tra makes the material highly biocompatible because it contains none of today’s classic monomers (BisGMA [BPA], TEGDMA, UDMA, etc.). With an 84 percent (by weight) inorganic filler content, the light-cured, radiopaque Admira Fusion x-tra has excellent strength and wear properties, according to the company. Additionally, the company reports that it is compatible with all conventional bonding agents and offers homogeneous non-sticky handling.

To learn more, you can visit www.vocoamerica.com.

Cefla Medical Solutions names national sales director

Cefla Medical Solutions, a subsidiary of one of Europe’s top dental-unit manufacturers, has announced that Colby Ledbetter has joined the company as national director — sales and services. Ledbetter will direct overall sales efforts and follow-up service for dental practices interested in advancing their businesses and the industry in North America.

Ledbetter comes to Cefla with more than 20 years experience in the dental industry, most recently as U.S. regional sales director for a dental imaging and practice management solutions company that has its North American headquarters in Atlanta. There she was responsible for attracting, hiring, coaching and mentoring territory sales representatives in six southwestern states. She has had a great track record in sales, with significant growth in every territory she managed.

“Our team is extremely fortunate to have someone with Colby’s drive, knowledge and experience to assist customers as they strive to understand new technology, weigh options and succeed in implementing the best

possible solutions for their practices,” said Cefla North America General Manager Massimo Di Russo. “She is a dynamic force in the industry, and we couldn’t be happier to have her join us as such a strong advocate for advancing dentistry.”

Ledbetter has an MBA in marketing management from LeTourneau University and a bachelor’s degree in biology from LaSierra University. She also served for four years active duty, in the U.S. Navy, where she was a fleet marine force dental technician. She has continued to give back to the community by volunteering for non-profits, such as the Mission of Mercy and CDA Cares.

Cefla Medical Solutions is focused on providing dental practices with units designed and manufactured to ensure premium product standards capable of leading the future of dental care.

Learn more about Cefla brands Anthos, MyRay, Mocom and NewTom at www.cefladental.com.

(Source: Cefla Medical Solutions)



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Barrier protection critical with dental gloves

Gloves with inferior capability could expose patient/user to harmful infections

While caring for their patients, dental and health care professionals are constantly exposed to bodily fluids that may carry viruses and other infectious agents.

It is therefore critical that the gloves these professionals use provide the best possible barrier protection.

Many types of gloves are available today, but it is important to know that not all gloves have the same barrier capability, depending on the type of material used. For example, natural rubber latex gloves have long been acknowledged for their very effective barrier properties, while non-latex gloves, such as vinyl (polyvinyl chloride), have inferior barrier capability as shown by numerous studies.

Other synthetic gloves, such as nitrile and polyisoprene, perform much better than vinyl but are more costly, especially polyisoprene gloves. Using gloves with inferior capability could expose both the patient and user to harmful infections.

Quality, safety top priorities

Malaysia is the world's largest medical gloves exporter (latex and nitrile). Both quality and users' safety are of top prior-

ity to the nation's glove industry. To this end, a quality certification program (the Standard Malaysian Glove, or the SMG) has currently been formulated for latex examination gloves.

All SMG-certified gloves must comply with stringent technical specifications to ensure the gloves are high in barrier effectiveness, low in protein and low in allergy risks, in addition to having excellent comfort, fit and durability — qualities that manufacturers of many synthetic gloves are trying to achieve.

Natural, sustainable resource

Latex gloves are green products, derived from a natural and sustainable resource, and are environmentally friendly. (You can learn more online by visiting www.smgonline.biz or www.latexgloves.info).

The use of low-protein, powder-free gloves has been demonstrated by many independent hospital studies to markedly reduce the incidence of latex sensitization and allergic reactions in workplaces.

More important, latex-allergic individuals donning non-latex gloves can now work alongside their coworkers wearing the improved low-protein gloves without any heightened allergy concern.



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However, for latex-allergic individuals, it is still important they use appropriate non-latex gloves, such as quality nitrile and polyisoprene gloves, which provide them with effective barrier protection.

Extensive array of brand, prices

Selecting the right gloves should be an educated consideration to enhance safety for both patients and users. For decades, gloves made in Malaysia have

been synonymous with quality and excellence, and they are widely available in an extensive array of brands, features and prices.

They can be sourced either factory direct (www.mrepc.com/marketplace) or from established dental products distributors in the United States and Canada.

(Source: Malaysian Rubber Export Promotion Council)

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The patent-pending design of the LED DayLite WireLess is a new concept: a self-contained headlight that can integrate with various platforms, including your existing loupes, safety eyewear, lightweight headbands and future loupes or eyewear purchases.

The LED DayLite WireLess is not limited to just one pair of loupes or built into a single, specific eyeglass frame. The LED DayLite WireLess can be transferred from one platform to another, expanding your "WireLess" illumination possibilities across all of your eyewear options.

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The LED DayLite WireLess weighs only 1.4 ounces and, when attached to a pair of loupes, the combined weight is half the weight of integrated cordless lights/loupes. The LED DayLite WireLess produces more than 40,000 lux at high intensity and 27,000 lux at medium intensity. The spot size of the LED DayLite WireLess will illuminate the entire oral cavity. The function of the headlight is controlled via capacitive touch.

The LED DayLite WireLess is powered by a compact, rechargeable lithium-ion power pod. It comes complete with three power pods. The charging cradle enables you to independently recharge two power pods at the same time and clearly displays the progress of each charge cycle. Designs for Vision has been showing the Micro Series together for the first time this winter. The Micro 3.5EF Scopes use a revolutionary optical design that reduces the size of the prismatic telescope by 50 percent and reduces the weight by 40 percent, while providing an expanded-field full-oral-cavity view at 3.5x magnification.



The new Micro 2.5x Scopes are 23 percent smaller and 36 percent lighter than traditional 2.5x telescopes, and enlarge the entire oral cavity at true 2.5x magnification. The Micro Series is fully customized and uses the proprietary lens coatings for the greatest light transmission.

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(Source: Designs For Vision)



Christian Stohler, DMD, dean of the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, speaks at the East Africa Oral Health Summit. Photos/Provided by Columbia University

Universities, business partner to advance oral health care in East Africa

Researchers from Columbia University Medical Center (CUMC) are collaborating with the University of Nairobi, Unilever East Africa and the Columbia Global Centers | Africa to improve oral health care and disease prevention in East Africa and other resource-poor countries in the region. The project was officially launched at the East Africa Oral Health Summit, hosted in March at Columbia Global Centers |

► See AFRICA, page A8





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► AFRICA, page A7

Africa in Nairobi, Kenya.

The project is part of the Children's Global Oral Health Initiative of the International Family AIDS Program (IFAP) Global Health Program at Columbia, which includes CUMC's schools of dental medicine, nursing, medicine and public health. Additional key collaborators include the Ministries of Health in Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania and the Kenya Dental Association.

With only one dentist for every 42,000 people, Kenya falls far below the World Health Organization's recommendation of one dentist for 7,000 people. In addition, the majority of dentists in Kenya are found in urban areas, leaving most rural Kenyans without access to oral health care. Poor oral health in rural populations has been associated with other significant health problems, such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease and strokes, and absenteeism from work and school.

The Children's Global Oral Health Initiative and its partners aim to improve oral health and related illnesses in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania by integrating oral health care into the countries' health prevention and education initiatives. The program leaders hope to inform policy that can be tailored to local needs and implemented by the Ministries of Health in these three countries.

"We have chosen to initially engage stakeholders from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania because these three countries

share a common history, ethnicity and language and cooperate both politically and economically," said Dr. Kavita P. Ahluwalia, DDS, MPH, director of Global Oral Health Initiatives for Africa and South Asia at the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine and associate professor of dental medicine at CUMC.

Improving general understanding of the connection between dental health and systemic health among East Africans is an important part of the work, according to Christian Stohler, DMD, DrMed-Dent, dean of the Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, who attended the summit.

"The time has come for a radical change in our thinking about the importance of teeth and the mouth in terms of overall health," Stohler said.

The summit included more than 100 leaders in oral health from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and the U.S., as well as high-level government officials and the highest-ranking dental officials from East African nations. The participants identified regional priorities and began defining next steps to address oral health needs. Sustainable models of oral care delivery were presented, including utilizing existing health care workers to offer preventive services and promote improved oral hygiene practices.

"The summit was a great success," said Stephen W. Nicholas, MD, director of the IFAP Global Health Program, principal investigator of the Children's Global Oral Health Initiative and professor of pediat-



Unilever Vice President Personal Care, Debrah Mallowah signs the 'oral health pledge.' With her is Columbia University Dean, College of Dental Medicine, Dr. Christian Stohler (left) and Director, IFAP Global Health Program, Dr. Stephen Nicholas (right).



From left, Dean Christian Stohler, Columbia University College of Dental Medicine, and Professor Issac O. Kibwage, principal, College of Health Sciences, University of Nairobi.

rics and population and family health at CUMC. "It far exceeded our expectations at every level, including in participation, attendance and enthusiasm."

The project will also include a research component. Students from CUMC's four schools are scheduled to begin research in Kenya under the mentorship of Ahluwalia and Professor Regina Mutawe of the University of Nairobi.

Learnings from the project are expected to be applicable to other resource-poor countries in the region.

In an effort to improve oral health care in Kenya, Unilever's Pepsodent

toothpaste brand, in collaboration with the Kenya Dental Association, recently launched an educational program to encourage 1 million school children across the country to adopt—and promote within their families—better oral hygiene practices, including twice-daily tooth brushing.

Unilever will provide Pepsodent toothpaste at a reduced price to encourage correct toothpaste dosage and improve the frequency of brushing.

(Source: Columbia University College of Dental Medicine)

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