

Lecture Abstract

Imagine your child's school informing you that they will stop teaching your kids to write and only use keyboards and computers to do their assignments. Likewise, imagine the new generation of dental healthcare professionals and dental technologists being educated with digital tools only, the so-called "digital designers". An essential approach to dental aesthetics is the one that starts from the knowledge of form and function; the angular stone of which is dental histo-morphology, which implies not only 3D shape but also "4D" (layering). "Handwriting" dental shapes is what is called a "diagnostic wax-up". Confirming this diagnosis is what is called a "diagnostic mock-up" or provisional. Digital tools remain only tools and per se do not replace the fundamental instruments constituting the handwriting of the profession. A computer (hardware) without a programmer and software is naught. Likewise, a milled/printed restoration is naught without the human fingers (handcrafting). As a result, promising semi-(in)direct techniques will be described using bonded composite resin and ceramic restorations.

Learning Objectives

- Know the limitations of direct and indirect techniques
- Understand the treatment planning process (wax-up/mock-up)
- Learn the new possibilities of polymer CAD/CAM semi-(in)direct restorations