

Going Beyond the Students Boundaries: Using CEREC, Certifying Them in the Fabrication, Milling and Crystallization of E-max Indirect Restorations

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Objective: To train and certify dental students in fabricating indirect tooth colored restorations with CAD/CAM technology.

Introduction: Tooth colored restoration using digital dentistry is growing worldwide. CAD/CAM technology in fabricating tooth colored restorations, including, crowns, inlay/onlays, veneers, three-unit FPDs and implant crowns are used in most of the dental schools in the United States.

Method: At New York University College of Dentistry, the second-year students are trained in the simulation laboratory on how to make digital impressions. Additionally, they use the software to view their work at 12X and improve their own preparations.

As third-year dental students, they design and fabricate two indirect composite restorations and two ceramic restorations using the CAD/CAM. A group of four student doctors practice together using the acquisition unit under the supervision of a qualified instructor. They are trained to make a digital impression of the prepared tooth and the adjacent teeth, the opposing quadrant and in maximum intercuspation.

Student doctors learn how to digitally design and mill the restorations. In addition, they learn how to operate a high-tech digital crystallization furnace used for staining and glazing ceramic.

The student doctors are certified to use CAD/CAM and also the furnace to crystallize their restoration. In fourth year, they have the training and lab experience to deliver CAD/CAM restorations to patients.

Conclusion: Certification of the dental student doctors gives them confidence and self-motivation to excel in the new world of digital dentistry.

Biography:

Dr. Denise Estafan graduated from Cairo University College of Dentistry in 1969. After graduation, Dr. Estafan practiced dentistry in a private general dentistry practice for two years. In 1978, Dr. Estafan was appointed instructor at Riyadh University and worked in the outpatient clinics in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia until 1980. In 1984, Dr Estafan was appointed Assistant Clinical Professor to the Department of Operative Dentistry at New York University College of Dentistry. In 1993, Dr Estafan was appointed to the Division and Prosthodontic Sciences. Dr. Estafan is the author of over 100 publications/abstracts that have focused on dental materials relating to restorative dentistry, aesthetics and CAD/CAM technology. She has lectured nationally and internationally on these topics. Dr. Estafan presently holds the rank of Associate Professor and is the Director of Aesthetics Dentistry in the Division of Caries Diagnosis, Management and Aesthetics' at New York University College of Dentistry.