

Here's an Exciting Development in Dentistry...

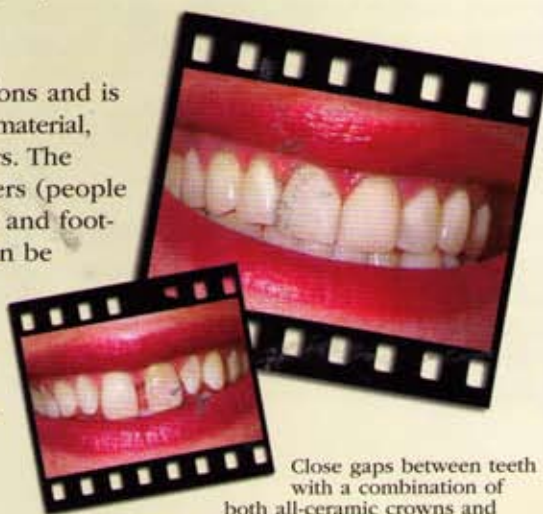


*"I appreciate the natural look of all-ceramic crowns, and I have some concerns about metal sensitivity."*

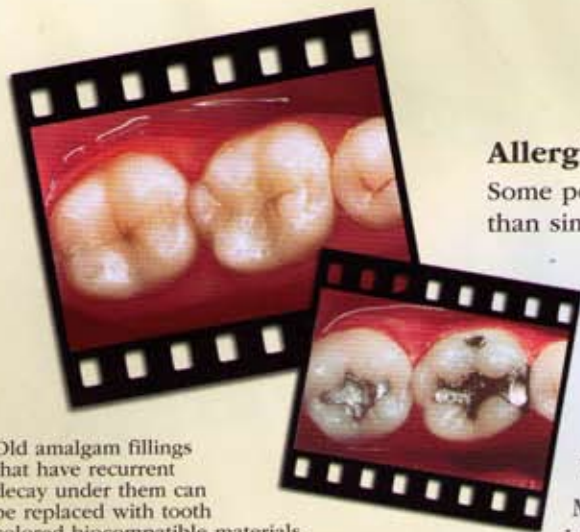
## Metal-Free Crowns & Bridges

Beginning in the late '70s, porcelain veneers bonded with composite cement finally gave dentists the superior cosmetic results they wanted and the "Hollywood smiles" their patients desired. Heightened awareness of more natural looking possibilities has increased the public's consciousness and dissatisfaction with less natural looking restoratives (such as amalgam fillings and base metal crowns and bridges). Even gold, despite being biocompatible, superbly functional and longer lasting than most other materials, is not selected by patients who feel that any metal is unsightly.

However, metal is a sensible choice in many situations and is the most frequently prescribed dental restorative material, especially as a bridge material for restoring molars. The added strength metal provides may be required for bruxers (people who grind their teeth) or those in contact sports (boxing and football). Unfortunately, metal often gets a bad rap, which can be related to metal sensitivity, dark shadows at the gum line, and esthetics. Certain lighting conditions may also cause porcelain-fused-to-metal crowns to glow and look unnatural. While this may not effect everyone, some patients prefer the option of choosing metal-free crowns and bridges.



Close gaps between teeth with a combination of both all-ceramic crowns and veneers for a new appearance.



Old amalgam fillings that have recurrent decay under them can be replaced with tooth colored biocompatible materials.

### Allergies to Metals

Some people have allergic reactions to base metals. Far worse than simply not being able to wear costume jewelry, metal sensitivity in the mouth can cause irritation, bleeding of the gums, and pain. This irritation can cause gum recession and can only be remedied by the removal of the restoration. In these instances, non-allergenic metals (such as gold or titanium) or metal-free restorations can be prescribed.

### Better Esthetics

Modern all-ceramic systems remove most risks of possible breakage so that choosing a metal-free restoration is

a more attractive option, especially for single crowns and bridges that replace your front teeth. More people are choosing all-ceramic restorations because of their increased beauty. These restorations eliminate the unnatural look of any visible metal (such as the dark metal ring that can appear at the gum line, or grayish-blue discolored gums from metal clasps). They also do a better job of imitating the properties of opacity and fluorescence found in natural teeth. In most instances, all-ceramic crowns disappear in the mouth with a chameleon-like quality by transmitting adjacent and underlying tooth colors, enabling restorations to blend more naturally with surrounding natural tooth structures.

### The Advantages of Zirconia

The most esthetic, most reliable all-ceramic crowns and bridges have arrived. Zirconia frameworks are revolutionizing the field of all-ceramics. Products like 3M™ ESPE™ Lava™ Crowns and Bridges and DENTSPLY Ceramco's Cercon exhibit high strength and beautiful esthetics. These stellar results are made possible with the use of the latest technologies. The CAD/CAM process ensures a precise fit for your restoration.

Zirconia is ideal for those who are sensitive to metal or simply prefer the esthetics of metal-free restorations. Its biocompatibility has been proven over the years through use in the medical field – zirconia has replaced metal as the material of choice in hip replacement surgeries. So you know

A bright natural smile is an important asset. Take the time to explore the options with your dentist.



that your dental restoration will have the strength you desire and will be highly resistant to wear. Zirconia can be used for both anterior and posterior crowns and bridges. Ask your dentist for more information about this exciting new option.



Missing teeth can be replaced with metal-free bridgework. These state-of-the-art crowns and bridges offer a strong and esthetic solution for replacing missing teeth.



Broken down or severely worn teeth can be repaired with the use of veneers to increase the length of the teeth for a youthful smile.

